

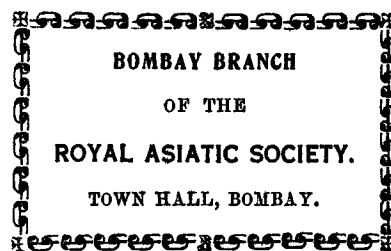
REPORT
ON THE
VILLAGE COMMUNITIES
OF THE DECCAN
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GOODDINE



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R E P O R T

ON THE

VILLAGE COMMUNITIES OF THE DECCAN,

WITH ESPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE

CLAIMS OF THE VILLAGE OFFICERS IN THE AHMEDNUGGUR COL-
LECTORATE TO "PURBHARA HUKS," OR REMUNERATION
FROM THEIR VILLAGES, INDEPENDENT OF WHAT
THEY RECEIVE FROM GOVERNMENT.

By MR. R. N. GOODDINE,

SUB-ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT AHMEDNUGGUR REVENUE SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT
(NOW ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT.)

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Printed for the information of the Revenue Officers under the Government of Bombay.

*Revenue Secretary's Office,
4th December 1852.*

H. E. GOLDSMID,
Secretary to Government.

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To

CAPTAIN D. DAVIDSON,

Superintendent of the Ahmednuggur Revenue Survey and Assessment.

SIR,

IN pursuance of your orders, directing me to collect information regarding the Village System generally, but having especial reference to the claims of Village Officers to Purbhara Huks,* or remuneration from their villages, exclusive of what they receive from Government, I beg to submit the following Report upon the subject.

2. The villages in which I have carried on the inquiry are the thirty-three which form the Koombharee Purgunna or Mahalkaree's division of the Patoda Talooka; and as the same usages, with slight modifications, generally prevail throughout the Zilla, the above examples will, I conceive, sufficiently elucidate the question.

3. The nature and amount of the claims of Village Officers principally depend on the positions they hold in their villages, and the nature of the tenure of land which prevails in them; for in some villages the Patel receives no huks on land; in others Meeras land is exempt, and he only receives them from Gutkoollee or Gairan; while in others, again, he receives them from every description of land, both Meeras, Gutkoollee, Enam, and Gairan. The above circumstances, together with the numerous collateral ones which it will be necessary to refer to, such as the nature and amount of huks generally, both of village officers and artizans; the estimation in which they are held by the recipients; the method in which they are collected; their effect upon the ryots, agriculture, and trade, will render it necessary to enter into a brief analysis of the Village System. For, I conceive, it will be hopeless to expect to arrive at correct opinions on these subjects, unless we are first masters of the necessary detail, and of the peculiar spirit of the system.

4. As the subject will, therefore, be a lengthy one, for the sake of perspicuity I shall discuss it under the following heads:—

1st. The origin, growth, and rights of Village Communities; the description of the Landed Tenure; and the rise and progress of the influence, rights, and standing of the Village Officers.

2nd. The nature of the several Huks: how far their amount is adequate to the support of the several recipients, and how far such amount affects the Ryots; and what proportion it bears to the Government Assessment.

3rd. The nature and amount of Enams, Ready-money Allowances and Sadilwar, the aggregate of which shows the total amount sacrificed by Government in proportion to its revenue, and, together with the amount of Purbhara Huks, the total expense of the system.

4th. General observations on the nature and tendency of the system, and suggestions for its improvement,—as the direct remuneration of Village Officers by Government; the application of Sadilwar, or contingent expenses; the modification of the Meeras tenure; the formation of Town Committees; and the institution of Town Dues in large towns, for their cleanliness and improvement.

* पुरभारा, by intermediate, or other than the direct way; and حق right, due, claim.

VILLAGE COMMUNITIES.

5. Before we can form any just idea of village polity, and the feelings, rights, and customs arising therefrom, it will be necessary to enter into some consideration of its origin. A village, at the first view, would appear as a kind of primitive commonwealth, held together by the individual interests of its inhabitants; but further investigation would rather show it to be a minor branch of the feudal system of the earlier ages, the natural effect of an unorganized Government. Our data are certainly scanty, but the facts we do possess tend to support such opinion. The most ancient Hindoo law declares the State to be the sole owner of the soil, and the sole paramount power by which the district and village officers were appointed, and to which they were subject.* These officers, however, early gained a degree of independence, and inherent right of occupation. Hindoo feeling always acknowledged the right of the children to inherit the livelihood of the parent, from whatever source obtained; and these offices, in becoming hereditary, became the *de facto* property of their possessors. A village, then, may be termed a self-constituted corporation, organized rather from the primitive necessity of its inhabitants than by design, and strengthened and perpetuated by the hereditary succession of its office-bearers. The numerous and rapid changes of Government in dissolving all stability, taught men to seek for preservation of name and property within themselves, and conferred a degree of importance upon village communities, which, under more stable governments, they might never have attained to. A new and ephemeral ruler could have no inducement to displace village officials, when he had everything to gain from their co-operation; and the spoiler of a country had only to make himself master of their persons to extort the tribute of the village, their sufferings exciting the compassion, and exalting them in the eyes of the people. Though purely the servants of Government, ancient usage had made their offices hereditary; and these offices formed the only description, other than personal, of hereditary property in the country, and were coveted by all who possessed wealth or influence: wealth or the service of the State might pass away, but a Wuttun—a sure livelihood and source of respect—always remained. The mere right of settlement in, or of belonging to, a village, was, as a mark of respectability, an indispensable requisite to all classes of people: not only the cultivator, but the poorest artisan must belong to, and possess a house—real property in one. To become *puragunda* was the greatest misfortune, and the surest sign of irremediable poverty. The village thus became the only centre of stability, and the only repository of Civil rights: it was the only institution which the people possessed, and the only object of their national attachment; yet the rights of the body of the people, excepting those of the office-bearers, are vague and undefined; and it is probable that both municipal organization and landed property, as understood by us, were totally unknown to them; but, so far as they extend, they will, for the reasons stated in the 3rd paragraph, require our particular attention; and, for the proper understanding of them, it will be necessary to enter into a brief analysis of the Village System.

6. These communities are no doubt of the most primitive origin, and are probably coeval with the villages themselves, having been formed when society was in its infancy. A few cultivators, assembling together for mutual protection, would be glad to receive among them such artificers as their humble manner of life required the services of; and, as in all other societies, some one of more influence than the rest would be required to represent them to the paramount power, while that power might be equally willing to receive a responsible agent from among them. Increased prosperity would increase their

* "Munoo states there is to be a lord of a single village; a lord of ten; a lord of one hundred; and a lord of a thousand towns—all to be appointed by the king. Each is to report all offences, &c. to his immediate superior. The compensation for a lord of one town is the provisions and other articles to which the king is entitled to from that town. That of a lord of ten villages, two ploughs of land. The lord of a hundred villages is to have the land of a small village; and of a thousand, that of a large town."—Vide *Elphinstone's History of India*, Chap. II. page 39.

wants : a village priest, clerk, astrologer, with a lower description of servants, might soon follow, and the village staff would then be increased to its present form of the Bara Bulootee, viz. 1st, Patel; 2nd, Coolkurnee; 3rd, Sootar or Carpenter; 4th, Lohar or Smith; 5th, Chambhar or Tanner, and Shoe-maker; 6th, Khoombhar or Potter; 7th, Nhawee or Barber; 8th, Pureet or Washerman; 9th, Joshee, or Bhut, or Astrologer; 10th, Goorow or Priest; 11th, Sonar or Goldsmith; and 12th, Muhar.

7. The village being formed, had probably got a wall around it, as a guard against marauders,—a fact of no small importance in those days,—and would thus become a desirable place of residence for those who had not already gained a settlement. But the inhabitants, having been at considerable labour and expense, and feeling their own importance, might not be willing to admit a settler without an equivalent. The usual way of gaining a settlement, it is said, was by making some village improvement, such as digging a well, building a temple, or repairing the wall; and, perhaps, by feeing the authorities.

8. The village, as thus constituted, would consist of two principal classes of inhabitants,—the cultivators and the office-bearers,—all of whom possessed the freedom of, or right of settlement in it, and were thence termed Gawkurees.* But the value of a settlement in a village would increase with the population of the country; and in the course of time there would arise another class of inhabitants—those who, either from poverty or other causes, could not obtain the right of settlement, but whose presence was either necessary, or who were suffered through charity to remain in the village; these were called Oopree,† a name fully expressive of their non-right of residence in the village.

9. Pursuing a similar method of etymological inquiry, it will be advantageous to inquire into the description of the Landed Tenure.

10. Koonbee‡ is the generic name of the agricultural class; Koonbawa,§ their occupation, or relation to Government. A tenant is called Sirkar, Koonbawa, or Kool;|| but they are properly distinguished by the description of their holdings, as—

Thulwaheek,¶ the cultivator of a Thul.—Thul signifies a place or spot, but, in agricultural language, a place or spot in which the holder has dug a well, built a bund, or planted trees, or made such improvement as to entitle him to the uninterrupted possession of such field.

Moondwaheek,** the cultivator of a Moond, or lot.

Oopree, a person residing in and cultivating land in a village, but one who has not gained a right of settlement in it.

Owundkuree,†† a person cultivating land in a village, but residing in and belonging to another.

11. Land was also called after its kind, class or tenure: the whole lands of a village are collectively called Sewar,‡‡ being contained within the village sew or boundary; Wawur,§§ cultivated or culturable land; Tika,||| Shet,¶¶ Purtun,*** Thul,

* गाव, village, and करी, an agent, a doer, a possessor.

† उपरी; from उपर, upon. A sojourner, a temporary resident; one who does not possess the freedom of the village.

‡ कुणबी; an individual of the agricultural order or class; कुणबीकी, agriculture, tillage.

§ कुणबावा, agricultural occupancy. || कुळ, a debtor, a customer.

¶ थळवाहिक, or थळकरी; from थळ, a place, वाहणे, to cultivate, and करी, an agent, a doer.

** मंडवाहिक; from मंड, head, principal; stipulated sum or quantity; वाहणे, to cultivate.

†† वावंडकरी, ओवंडकरी, आवंडकरी; from वलांडणे, to cross over; as a road, or boundary.

‡‡ शिवार; from शिव, or सीमा, a boundary, border, limit.

§§ वावर; from वाहणे, to cultivate.

||| ठिके, a parcel, patch of ground; a mole, a field, a spot.

¶¶ शेत, a field, cultivated piece of ground.

*** परतन, turning; from परतणे, to turn; such a length as the bullocks will conveniently drag ploughs without tiring; a field of convenient length for such turning being, by metonymy, a field.

or Mullae,* a field ; Koorun, preserved grass-land ; Gairan, pasture-land ; Gutkoolee, the Thul or field of an extinct family or cultivator. Other terms, as Meeras, Enam, &c. have since been introduced by the Mahomedans, and will be adverted to hereafter.

Koorun,† land preserved for hay or grass, chiefly for the use of the State, or for some Government officer. Its etymon and origin are now unknown : it may have originally been कुराण, bad land ; or कुरण, a bad fight ; or कुरण, bad debt ; indicating that the village had no participation or share in it.

Gairan,‡ cow's land, i. e. pasture-land ; an indefinite term for all land not brought under cultivation. In summing up the contents of a village, it usually includes all unculturable land, such as beds of rivers, water-courses, and barren patches, as well as such as may have been set aside for grazing. In the latter sense it would appear to correspond to our village commons in England ; but it differs from them, inasmuch as the commons, if I mistake not, are shared by those only who possess the freedom, or other rights, of the village ; whereas Gairan, in being Government property, is common to the whole village—equally so to the occasional sojourner as to the permanent resident. It appears originally to have meant such land as had not been taken up for cultivation, and in some villages all land not entered under the head of Meeras, Enam, or Gutkoolee, is entered under that of Sirkaree Gairan, cultivated or not.

Gutkoolee, the lands of an extinct family, from गत, past, कुल, kool, a family, a debtor, or customer. This term, too, is laxly used, under it frequently being entered all lands not possessed as meeras.

Meeras,§ heritage, succession, patrimony. This word is of Arabic or Hebrew origin, and was introduced by the Mahomedans. The Hindoos have no corresponding term, and it is probable that, under them, land as *bonâ fide* property was never possessed by the tenant cultivator. It was a distinguished feature of the Mahomedan rule, to endeavour to promote permanent cultivation, the Meerasdar being held responsible for the rent of his land, cultivated or uncultivated. The word may, therefore, have been introduced for the attainment of this object ; or really, as the term implies, inheritance, from the people being considered the hereditary occupiers or proprietors ; but the Emperor Akbar is said to have denied this, and to have claimed all land as the property of the State. Mahomedan law declares all land to be the property of the conqueror, though it is preserved to those who submit. If any of the usages in these districts be different from those in others, the difference, perhaps, arises from this cause, or perhaps from the superior privileges granted by the Nizam and Adilshah kings in their struggles with the Emperors of Hindoostan. The proprietorship of the soil is a question of little importance now, but the uses and abuses of the meeras tenure require some consideration, and must be adverted to accordingly.

Gaw-Nisbut-Meeras,|| land belonging to the village in its own right ; land which, from disagreement among the Patels, or other causes, has not yet been appropriated as meeras ; or perhaps land which the Patels chose to keep under this term, for the purpose of enforcing their dues upon it.

Enam,¶—This too is an Arabic word, introduced by the Mahomedans, signifying a grant, a gift. The Hindoos do not appear to have had any word to denote rent-free

* मलई, the rich ground along the banks of some rivers, formed by alluvial depositions ; a field of garden or meadow land.

† From कु, bad, राण, land, रण, fight, and ऋण, debt.

‡ From माय, a cow, and राण, land.

§ ميراث heritage, succession, patrimony.

|| गावनिषुबतनिरास ; from गाव, a village, and निषुबत belonging to, or in the charge of, and ميراث heritage, &c.

¶ انعام a present, gift, reward.

land, or free-hold property, except the expressive one of Suwusthan, one's own place;* but this is never found in less quantities than a whole village. Rent-free land under the Hindoos was merely designated by terms signifying the purposes to which devoted, as Dewusthan,† an idol's place; Pasodee,‡ a shawl, the Patel's grant; Cholee,§ a bodice or spencer, a grant to the Patel's wife; Hadola,|| a row or collection of bones; Hudkee,¶ a little bone; Domnee,** a dish—these three are grants to the Muhars;—Dew Shet,†† a grant to a person who had been successful in a trial by ordeal, such as that of determining the village boundary. Surwamanya‡‡ and Jodeemanya§§ are two Hindoo terms for rent-free land: the former signifies grants on which Government takes no quit-rent, the latter those on which it takes one. These terms, however, are said to have been introduced into these districts about the beginning of our rule, by a Canarese Dufturdar of Nuggur.

Sheree||| may be considered a description of rent-free land: it signifies land appropriated by the State for its own use, from which, perhaps, it takes its name, i. e. Sheer, the head, chief, principal. The Mahomedans also designated grants by terms denoting their comparative freedom or alienation from the State, as Sahanuk,¶¶ a plate, or dish, or the refuse of it, indicating that such grant is irrevocably given. Mokassa,*** divided or partial grants of villages, in which Government reserves to itself a portion of the revenue.

Suranzam,††† Zat-Suranzam,‡‡‡ Jagheer, and the like; but these appertain more to revenue matters than to the present subject.

Gaw-Nisbut-Enam,§§§ land granted in enam by the village, for a debt, or some other purpose, the village continuing, by paying the total revenue of such village, to make up the difference, and to ensure Government from loss.

12. As a further introduction to village customs, and the influence possessed by village officials, it will be advantageous to notice as briefly as possible the former system of revenue. It is probable that the earliest assessments would be of the simplest kind, and were, perhaps, those of which some traces still remain under the various names of Aoot-bundee,|||| Moondbundee,¶¶¶ Tikabundee,**** Tokabundee,†††† and the like; being

* संस्थान; from स्व, own, proper, स्थान, a place.

† देवस्थान; from देव, a deity, and स्थान, a place.

‡ पासोडी, a shawl.

§ चोली, a spencer, bodice.

¶ हडकी; from हड, a bone, and वाळ, a line; or perhaps course, fashion, line, (of deportment, or procedure,) having reference to the Muhar's occupation of clearing the village of dead cattle.

¶¶ हडकी, a little bone; a smaller enam held by the Muhars.

** डोमणी; from डोमणा, a dish, a wooden bowl or platter, so called by the Muhars; more generally the name of another small enam sometimes possessed by them.

†† देवशेत; from दिव्य, a deity, an idol, and शेत, a field.

‡‡ सर्वमान्य; from सर्व, all, every, and मानणे, to allow.

§§ जोडोमान्य; from जोडो, a pair, and मानणे, to allow.

||| शेरी; from शीर, the head, or from शेर, subsistence, شیر chief, that has come off superior.

¶¶ म्हक a dish, a means of subsistence.

*** مواصفة past participle of قوس قيس قاس measurement, comparing one thing with another, i. e. sharing, division; or from خاض (Hebrew) to cut, to divide, to appropriate. Vide قاس para. 13. Grants in enam, being commonly granted to artisans, village officers, and religious mendicants, persons of distinction among the Marathas affected to consider that a grant of mokassa or jagheer, however small, entitled them to be included in the list of Government officials or nobles.

††† سرانجام utensils, furniture; remuneration for feudal services.

‡‡‡ ذات سرانجام from ذات self, possessed of, and سرانجام in contradistinction to that for the support of troops.

§§§ गावनीसबत इनाम; from गाव, village, نسبت belonging to, and انعام a gift.

|||| आउतबंदी; from आउत, an implement, a tool of husbandry, a plough, harrow, &c., and बंदी, from بستن to bind. An assessment fixed on each plough of two or four bullocks. Compound words, derived, the one from Hindee, and the other from Persian or Arabic, are not uncommon: this may have originally been बंधो, from बंधणे, but which orthography is now obsolete.

¶¶¶ मुंडबंदी; from मुंड, a lot, and बंदो.

**** टिकेबंदी; from टिके, a field, and बंदी.

†††† ठोकेबंदी, agreement by the lump; from ठोकेणे, to strike.

assessments by the lump on each plough, field, or holding. Measurements are reported to have been introduced into these districts by the Mahomedans, but the term Beegha,* being of Hindee origin, would prove their introduction to have been long anterior to their rule. Both the beegha and its multiples vary in different districts, but in the Deccan thirty beeghas equal one paeen, and four Paeens† one Chahoor‡ of land; though paeens and chahoors, as nominal quantities regulated for the plough, were perhaps in use long before the beegha. A village, spoken of in reference to its size, is one of so many chahoors. The chahoor being assumed as the standard, fractional parts are deduced and named from it, as rookha $\frac{1}{12}$, or ten beeghas, paeen $\frac{1}{4}$, or thirty beeghas. Where the land is good, the measurement of the beegha is generally pretty equal, but where the land is inferior it becomes merely nominal; for where only one rate of assessment obtained, and that of the highest, adapted to the first class soil only, the inferior lands could not pay it; and the only remedy in such cases was to throw in more land to make up the difference: the beegha then became a measure of quality, and not of quantity. These and other causes produced a very lax system of revenue, and threw much into the hands of the district and village officers; for, in each of the above cases, they became the virtual assessors of the soil: if the assessment were on the plough or on the lump, they were the annual estimators of the amount cultivated; and if, in measurements, they were allowed to increase or diminish the size of the beegha according to the quality of the land, they were still the virtual assessors. In some districts the Patels, or chiefs of villages, were called Khotes,§ which would imply that in those districts they were the farmers of their villages.

13. The Mahomedan Government appears to have entered somewhat more into detail, but their arrangements, perhaps, tended more to the permanent fixing of the assessment, than to the development of local resources. Villages were measured, and a total assessment, called the Tunkha,|| put upon them; that tunkha was to be paid yearly, whether the land was cultivated or not, the Patels or Mokadums,¶ as they were then called, being held responsible for it; which could not be done unless corresponding immunities were granted them in return. Their perquisites from their villages, under the denomination of huks, were consequently authorized and defined: in some cases they were allowed Mooshaeera,** or a per-centage on the total revenue; in others they had a rent-free field granted, which, in these districts, is said to have been five per cent. in measurement of the total amount annually cultivated in their respective villages. The sale of their situations, or Wutuns,†† was also sanctioned, and, as the higher officers had a per-centage on such sales, was perhaps encouraged. Where, from sales or other causes, there were two or more Tuksindar‡‡ sharers of a Patelship, the village lands were divided between them, and each was held responsible for the amount of assessment on his share: this was called a Turufbundee§§ assessment. The same principle was extended to the

* बिह्वा; from बिह्वा, battle, fight; the body. Vide *Shakespeare's Hindostanee Dictionary*, and *Molesworth's Murathee*.

† पाइण; from पाय, a fourth.

‡ चाहूर; probably from चार, four, four-fold: thus, four bullocks, or four pairs, are called a chahoor team—hence as much land as can be cultivated by them.

§ खोत, a farmer of land revenue, a contractor; also a contract.

|| نخواست from تن the body, and خواستن to desire. An assignment on lands and their revenue. The above in the text is the most popular interpretation of the Tunkha system, but it occurs to me that this system was merely the first rough settlement of the Mahomedans, before they found themselves strong enough to enter into details, and that measurements and a more regular system were introduced by subsequent Mogul emperors. The kumall کمال perfection, completion, accomplishment, as the name implies, would appear to have been such subsequent settlement from actual measurement.

¶ مقدم antecedent, prior, chief.

** مشايرا pay, wages.

†† وطن one's native place.

‡‡ تقسیم دار from تقسیم dividing, separating a share, and دار from داشتن to have, to hold.

§§ طرفبندی from طرف side, margin, quarter, بستن to bind.

cultivators. The Hindoo Thulwaheeks were termed Meerasdars,* and were held responsible for the assessment on their fields, cultivated or not. The sale of meeras was also sanctioned. Where village officers were held responsible for the tunkha, or total amount of assessment on their villages, the internal arrangement of them would be, in a great measure, left to themselves. Thus in many villages we find a Kasbundeet† assessment; that is, the village was divided into farms or shares—a small piece of bagaeet (garden-land) here, a plot of jeeraet (dry-crop) there, with an inferior piece of grazing-land elsewhere, might compose a farm, kass, or share. One common assessment per beegha was generally fixed upon the whole village, but the number of beeghas in each kass was determined by the quality of the land, and not its quantity. Where two brother or shareholder Patels could not agree, they were sometimes, it appears, allowed to divide the village between them, and to separate. In some instances, a new village was erected by one of the sharers in that portion of the lands which had been allotted to him; in others even the old village site appears to have been divided, and one part called by another name. Each separatist guaranteed the amount of assessment on his share, or rather the tunkha was divided also, and the division was recognized in the Government records.‡

14. I have observed in para. 11 that Meeras is an Arabic word, introduced by the Mahomedans, corresponding to which the Hindoos have no synonym. Thulwaheek is the ancient name for Meerasdar, but that word conveys no sense of inheritance or of proprietorship; neither do the negative terms Gutkoolee, Oopree, Sookhwustee, and Owundkuree, imply the absence of such meaning; since the term Gutkool equally signifies a past debtor, or tenant, as a past family; while the word Oopree would indicate the right to be a municipal rather than an individual one; and it is this municipal right, with the honors and immunities attached thereto, in which the value of meeras in a great measure consists. The Native account of meeras is, that it has generally been obtained from the Patel in troublous times, when, from some predatory visitation or pecuniary difficulty, he has been compelled to seek assistance from the villagers, granting them in return honors, and immunities from the Patel's share of huks in kind on their land; and it is in this sense that it requires consideration.§ Exclusive of the Government rent on the land, each individual of the village staff receives from it huks in kind, as a remuneration for his services. The Patels in pecuniary difficulties have frequently disposed of their share of this impost, and it is this freedom from it which in these districts constitutes the real value of meeras, since, should not a Meerasdar cultivate his own meeras, he still claims the established impost from the person who does.|| Besides this impost in kind, the Patel receives several others from the residents of his village, among which is one of a turban, shawl and cocoanut, levied on the marriage of each member of a resident's family, according to his circumstances. The freedom from this is generally stipulated for, in the same manner as that from the land, but sometimes the one and sometimes the other is dispensed with. Patels, however, have occasionally given

* میراث دار—Vide note to para. 11.

† قاسبندی from قاس measuring, comparing one thing with another.—Vide note to Mokassa, para. 11.

‡ Such divisions are numerous, and are to be met with in almost every district, of which many of the villages, bearing the affixes Boodrookh, greater, and Koord, less, are instances.

§ Even up to the later years of the Peishwa's rule, the Patel had the power of disposing of land in meeras; indeed, it was not only tacitly sanctioned by Government, but the Patel in many cases was enjoined to sell it for the purpose of increasing cultivation. The value of such meeras depended upon the benefits conveyed with it. Thus a nominal meeras, or one which merely conveyed the freedom of the village, was not so valuable as one which conveyed the freedom from the Patel's impost also. It is true that in some few districts the Patels had no huks on land, but this appears only to have happened where there had been a sufficiently influential Government Agent, who, by instituting a different system of revenue, had the power to prevent the Patels from exacting them.

|| I have frequently found this to be admitted up to the present day, though it is generally attempted to conceal it. If the Meerasdar enter the meeras in his own name, and re-let it, he easily succeeds, but if Government let another person's meeras, he does not always obtain the impost.

to poor relations, or members of their families, a nominal meeras, without foregoing any impost. Meeras may, therefore, be of three classes, according to its total, partial, or non-exemption from impost. The amount of this impost is sufficient to make the freedom from it desirable; but it is only a secondary object when compared with the other adjuncts of the meeras tenure, the civic honors, and outward means of distinction. What these honors are is to an European as difficult to understand as to describe, but any person conversant with the Native character and village economy will readily comprehend the importance attached to them. The priority of place in an assembly, at a festival, or in a procession, and the right of sitting in municipal council, are inestimable marks of distinction to a people among whom there is so little real property, and by whom individual merit and independence of character are so little appreciated. I have been told that in some parts of the Sattara District, a Meerasdar would consider himself insulted were even a private merry-meeting to take place without his being at least asked to take *pan-sooparee* at it. Who am I in the village, to be thus slighted? would be his indignant exclamation! If, as above stated, the Patel had the privilege of conferring meeras, he could not also confer the right of property in the soil, which privilege belongs to the State alone; but there could be no obstacle to his relinquishing his own claims, or to the granting of any village distinction which the customs of the country had made desirable. But the practice is fraught with much evil, insomuch as it causes continual quarrels among the cultivators: the Patel, for the purpose of regaining his impost, is induced to take every opportunity of entering meeras land in his own name, or as gutkooler, or to extort bribes for the restoring of it.

15. The annexed table (No. 1) of landed tenure in the villages of the Koombharee Purgunna, now reported upon, will further explain what has been stated. In this table the Patel's meeras has been entered in a separate column, and the remainder, belonging to Koonbees and others, has been divided into three classes, as above described, viz. the exempted, the partially exempted, and the non-exempted from the Patel's huk. It will be observed that, in some villages, the whole of the meeras belongs to the Patels, and in most of them the greater part of it: there are exceptions, but they are generally to be accounted for. The village of Rahate, for instance, the Patelship of which is held, and is said to have been seized by force, by the Nimbalkur, an influential Jagheerdar and Sirdar of the late Government, who, it is not too much to presume, having power and influence sufficient to force the payment of his huks, had no occasion to resort to the means of entering the land as meeras in his own name; or to resist its being entered as non-exempted meeras in the names of its cultivators. Few Patels, whatever their difficulties, sell the whole of their Patelships: a half, a third, or a fourth, is about the general amount of the share disposed of; and its value will, of course, depend on the amount of emoluments and meeras conveyed with it. The first column of this table shows the number of these shares. It is true that the Patel in some districts has no huks on land, and is remunerated entirely by Government; but this can only have happened in districts where the Thulwaheeks or cultivators have, as a body, had sufficient influence to resist such imposts, and to retain the corporate rights of the village among themselves; yet they collectively, as the representative of the corporation, have had to hold themselves responsible for every Government due; or where in later times some powerful Government Officer has had influence enough to rescind them.*

16. In such instances there has been no change of system on the part of the Native Government; the responsibility has merely been shifted to the whole village, instead of resting with the Patel—i. e. the village collectively is the Patel, and one of their body

* The Newassee and Parneer Talookas were for a long time under the charge of Naroo Babajee and his dependents, relatives of the late Peishwa's; and in these districts the Zemindars and Patels have less remuneration than those of any others: there are few or no enams and huks, which, it is said, is owing to the arrangements of this officer.

its representative, who merely enjoys a few forms of precedence, and, together with his few huks on the artisans and shop-keepers, his allowances from Government.* But in such cases the Native Government, it appears, levied an extra cess† upon meeras land, probably to compensate for the extra expense incurred by it in the remuneration of the Patel, or, probably, as a token of the right of proprietorship still being retained by it. The private rights of meeras in such cases did not differ much in the abstract from those already described: the total profits to the holder amounted to about the same, viz. a few annas per beegha above that of Oopree land; for as Government, in itself remunerating the Patel, had caused him to forego the imposts in kind upon all descriptions of land, it took such remuneration into account in assessing land not meeras, and it paid to Government an extra cess‡ above meeras to compensate such remission.

17. The distinction, then, in these two kinds of meeras tenure, is more apparent than real, the principles of the revenue system in which they originated being the same. In the one case Government had nominated a sole responsible agent, and had allowed him to remunerate himself by an impost in kind on the land, but from which impost some few of his equals and brotherhood were exempted, and which exemption was in other cases sold by him; in the other case, the Thulwaheeks of a village in a body claimed exemption from such impost, but they were obliged to guarantee every Government claim; and the Native Government, in sanctioning such exemption, levied, in token of its right of proprietorship, a small extra cess on meeras land entitled to that exemption, and a larger cess, the full value of the exemption, on land not entitled to it.§ The private rights and advantages of the tenure in both systems were the same, namely, the immunity from the Patel's impost, or from the extra cess levied in lieu of it, as in both instances the holders of meeras, on re-letting their fields, claimed the advantages attendant on such exemption.

18. That the above is the most correct view of meeras, I think, is borne out both by usage and theory. It is a peculiar characteristic of eastern languages, that a name should explain its derivation, or that it should express some property or condition of the thing named; and the absence of such name in the vernacular language,—for Meeras is a purely Mahomedan term,—exclusive of Hindoo law, declaring the State to be the sole owner of the soil, affords a fair presumption that this tenure, in the sense understood by us, is not an indigenous one. That each village had its Thulwaheeks, who possessed the freedom of the village, and hereditarily cultivated the same lands, has been already shown, but it is probable that the parallel went no further, and that all other usages of the meeras originated at a far later period, and are attributable to a different system of revenue management. That a person should possess an hereditary right of occupation, and yet not be the proprietor of the soil, is one of the many anomalies of eastern usages; but such is the sense, as understood by the people themselves. “The meeras is mine, but the land is the Sirkar's,” is the common answer to all inquiries; that is, meeras, in an abstract sense, is a perpetual lease, or that property resulting from improvement and outlay; and its value is enhanced by the affection with which men regard their place of birth, and the home of their forefathers: in a general sense, it embodies the advantages and profits which are derived from such a property;—for example, the advantages of village distinction, and the profits derivable from the imposts mentioned above.

* In later times, however, under the farming system, he generally managed to obtain a good haul from the surplus revenue, collected to remunerate the Zemindars, and to defray the expenses of the village.

† Meeras Puttee, levied every three years.

‡ Land not meeras in many districts paid four annas per beegha more than meeras.

§ This appears the most probable reason of the origin of those two singular cesses, the meeras puttee, and the extra cess upon gutkool land. But so many revenue systems have prevailed,—and these usages are purely the offspring of those systems, that few can give an authentic account of their origin.

19. In this latter or general sense it is liable to many abuses, and perhaps, in many instances, tends to check cultivation, thus frustrating the principal object for which it was encouraged by the Mahomedans. For, if the profits derivable from it act as an inducement for an individual, legally or illegally, to possess himself of more meeras than he can himself cultivate, he, in the event of such being brought under cultivation, becomes a kind of sleeping lessor; and though the Patel may have sufficient influence to enforce the imposts of his own meeras when cultivated by others, it is not to be expected that individuals of less influence will succeed in obtaining it, without, in many instances, having to struggle for it; and these quarrels, whether in families or otherwise, always tend to throw such land out of cultivation: the quarrel is ostensibly for the field, but in reality it may be for the impost. Besides these interests of the villagers, the higher district officers possess some also: they claim a per-centage on all sales, and profess to have the power of disposing of an extinct Patelship, and with it meeras land. They are the referees in quarrels, and it is to be feared not always disinterested ones.

20. The preceding paragraphs will, I hope, sufficiently elucidate the fundamental principles of village communities. The inhabitants, it will be observed, are divided into several classes, which result from private interests and conventional forms. The two principal divisions are the cultivators and the office-bearers: the former of these are, again, divided into Thulwaheeks or Meerasdars, and Ooprees,—that is, those who belong to the village, and those who do not,—a distinction kept up as a mark of respectability among the cultivators, as well as by the private interests of the office-bearers. The village does not appear to have possessed any recognized, or even definable rights, but all its internal usages not prejudicial to Government interests were tacitly allowed, and seldom interfered with. Its power to punish or to conceal offences depended on the character of the existing Government, and on that of the local authority; and the settlement within itself of disputes arising among its inhabitants depended on the relative influence of the several parties concerned. If the Patel had been able to maintain his influence, they might be decided in a summary manner by himself, but if he had not attained to or had lost that position, they were generally left to the arbitration of friends; and the decision of that arbitration might be adhered to or not, according to the inclination or influence of the contending parties. In matters immediately connected with the village, the hereditary artisans and office-bearers, with the Patel at their head, were frequently appealed to, as the best informed and most authentic witnesses of its affairs; but even their decision might be set at naught by an obstinate and refractory litigant. The most useful and legitimate employment of the artisans was that of labouring for the villagers in the several lines of their craft, but they also held another position, as the village staff and attendants on the Patel, and assistants in the various social and festive ceremonies of the village. An account of these ceremonies, or of the position of the actors in them, is not here required, but some notice of their duties as village servants would appear necessary.

21. The village staff, or Bara Bulootee, was, as the name implies, originally twelve in number, but there is some difference of opinion as to who composed it. The most correct and ancient division would appear to be that detailed in the 6th paragraph of this letter; but others, as the Bheel, Kolee, Moolana, Chowgoolee, &c. have been added in later years, and are now included. The Patels and Coolkurnees, also, from their subsequent improved position, assume a higher standing, wishing to be styled Zemindars; but it is the opinion of well-informed persons that in the olden times they were included in the number. The staff is divided into two principal classes, the Bulootee* and the Alootee; as also Karoo-Naroo;† but these are perhaps only instances of that alliterative

* बलूते; perhaps from बलवंत, strong, *i. e.* the village strength or staff.

† कारू, an artisan.

formation so prevalent in Muhrattee. The former phrase has no definite meaning, but is said to divide the whole into Bulootee, the effective, and Alootee, the non-effective; while Karoo-Naroo distinguishes the more effective artisans, Karoo, from those less necessary, Naroo, as detailed in Table No. 2. They are also divided into three "Olee,"* (Kass,† according to the Mahomedans,) or classes, for the convenience of remuneration; as 1st Kass—comprising Sootar, Lohar, Chambhar, Muhar; 2nd Kass—Koombhar, Nhawee, Pureet, Muhar; 3rd Kass—Bhut, Goorow, Moolana, Muhar; each division having had, in the event of disputes, a certain remuneration assigned to it, by some former authority: viz. 1st Kass, 30 sheaves per paeen; 2nd, 25 sheaves; and 3rd, 20,—this amount to be given by the Patel from the farmer's stack, on the appeal of either party. The duties of the village staff are, in general, so well known, that any enumeration of them would appear unnecessary; but, for the facility of comparing them with the amount of remuneration received, I shall mention them as briefly as possible, reserving the more immediate Government servants for further consideration.

Sootar.—The Carpenter is at the head of the artisans, his services being most in requisition: he makes up and mends all wooden implements for agricultural purposes, the owners finding the material; but for any other work, as building a house, or making a cart for other than agricultural purposes, he is paid. His average remuneration is about 6 paelees per paeen.

Lohar.—The Smith makes and repairs the iron work for all agricultural instruments, the owners finding the material; but anything apart from these, such as a cart, &c. for other than agricultural purposes, he must be paid for. Remuneration $5\frac{1}{2}$ paelees per paeen.

Chambhar.—The Shoe-maker makes all leathern halters, whips, ropes, and bands, for agricultural purposes, the owners finding the leather; but he must find the leather himself for all repairs, such as mending buckets, whips, and ropes, as above mentioned: he also mends the farmers' shoes, though they must pay him for new ones. He has also to furnish gratuitously the Deshmookh and Deshpandee of the district, and the Patel and Cookurnee of his village, with a new pair of shoes each annually. His average remuneration per paeen, as shown in Table No. 2 in the Appendix, is $5\frac{1}{2}$ paelees.

The above are the three principal artisans of the village, and they possess several perquisites above the others, among which may be mentioned the privilege of sowing in every farmer's field a strip of land each with ralla, each strip consisting of four furrows. The farmer tills the land, and these artisans merely bring each his basket of grain, which is sown by the farmer, and reaped by the recipient when ready.

Koombhar.—The Potter finds all the farmers in pottery of every description: earthen frying-pans, ovens, pitchers, water-pots and jars, are supplied by him according to the casualties and wants of each household; he generally receiving a cake of bread on the supplying of a fresh article. He also, when the corn begins to shoot into ear, takes a jug and water-vessel to each field, for those engaged watching the crop, receiving in return his nimboor (ears of corn). The artisans, Muhars, and the village staff generally, claim their pottery free also, but the Koombhar stipulates for some service in return. He must also supply any Government servant on his arrival at the village with what vessels he may require, and in this respect is perhaps sometimes hardly used. He finds the several images at the festivals, receiving in return a little grain. His average remuneration, in Table No. 2, is nearly 4 paelees and a quarter, i. e. $16\frac{3}{4}$ measured seers.

Nhawee.—The Barber must shave all the farmers and artisans,—to the Muhars he merely lends a razor. He must attend the Patel's wedding, at which he expects to

* ओळ, a row, a line, a rank.

† کاس a division, class, share; measuring one thing with another. Vide note *** to para. 11, page 5.

receive a turban. On the occasion of a wedding, or other festival, when an inhabitant of one village may send presents to a resident in another, it is the barber's duty to convey them, &c. His average remuneration is nearly $4\frac{1}{4}$ paelees per paeen.

Pureet.—The Washerman washes the clothes of the farmers (the men's—the women wash their own) at every monthly festival, and more frequently, if called upon; but he is seldom troubled, and is said to be very remiss in his duty, except on the approach of harvest. It is the washerman's duty to spread white clothes as carpets for the passage over of a wedding party, or of some great personage at a festival. His remuneration is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ paelees per paeen.

Bhut.—The Bhut is the village astrologer, but his duties approach nearer to those of priest. He performs the marriage ceremony, names the children, and reads the muntras over the dead; casts nativities, explains the almanac to the villagers, predicts favourable times and seasons for any undertaking, keeps the farmers informed of the proper time for sowing and reaping, and performs the ceremony of *pooja* (worship) to the corn when thrashed. His services are required nearly in every undertaking of life, and increase in a direct ratio with the superstition of the people. His average remuneration is $2\frac{3}{4}$ paelees per paeen; but this may be said to be only a fraction of his real gains. Each ceremony entails its fee: a pice and a cocoanut the poorest person will bestow, but the opulent must keep up name and character by more substantial donations.

Goorow.—The officiating Priest of the temple, and perhaps the original village teacher and priest, until supplanted by the Brahminical Bhut. Goorows are not Brahmuns, and their duties are confined principally to the temple. The Goorow performs the daily ablution of the idols, anoints them with red paint, and cleans the temple. He performs the ceremony of *ghut* during the nine nights preceding the Dussera, finds the dining leaves for the festivals, and fetches the bride to the house of her husband's parents, on visits to them before having permanently joined her husband. The Goorow's remuneration is $3\frac{1}{4}$ paelees per paeen.

Moolana.—This servant was introduced by the Mahomedans, and is to the Mussulman what the Bhut or Goorow is to the Hindoo. Amongst the Mussulmans he may be considered the Kazee's deputy, and performs the various religious rites and ceremonies entrusted to him by the Kazee. His ostensible duty in the village is to prevent the inhabitants of it, Hindoo or Mussulman, eating *moordar*, or any animal not made lawful by the Moolana's ceremony of *hulal*. His average remuneration is $2\frac{3}{4}$ paelees per paeen.

Sonar.—The Goldsmith. The above servants compose the Karoo—this and the following the Naroo. The goldsmith's duties were those of Government potedar or assayer: he inspected and assayed all Government revenue, and was answerable for all base coin. During the time of collecting the revenue, it was, after being examined by the goldsmith, sealed up and placed in his charge, until conveyed to the Government treasury; but these duties are now seldom required from him. He renders similar services to the village, as he assays all coin and jewellery brought for his inspection. If employed to make up jewellery, he is paid for it, and his only other duty is to pierce the children's ears and noses for their ornaments, to make the *mungulsootra*, or marriage string, for the bride, and to adorn her at the wedding. His average remuneration is $2\frac{1}{4}$ paelees per paeen.

Bheel.—The Bheel is now the village watchman, but it is perhaps only of late years that he has settled in these districts. He must remain on the alert for the safety of the village; keep an eye on all suspicious visitants; trace and find all stolen property, or make it good; watch over the property of any Government officer during his residence in the village; keep a general watch over the crops when standing on the lands; and escort the Government revenue to the treasury, &c. He

enjoys from our Government an enam generally of about ten beeghas.* His huks, which depend entirely upon the pleasure of the donors, vary from 10 to 20 sheaves per paeen, and a small portion from each thrashed heap, called Meer.† His average remuneration, as entered in Table No. 2, is $2\frac{3}{4}$ paelees per paeen, but I have reason to believe that the villagers have entered somewhat more than he really obtains. His enam is generally cultivated by another, when they divide the produce between them; and the remainder of his subsistence is made up by hunting, he frequently exchanging a portion of his spoils for corn.

Kolee.—The Kolee does not appear to be an original hukdar in these districts: his duties as a village servant are properly those of the Muhar. The duty of the office is to wait upon travellers, or on Government officers, on their arrival in the village; to procure them water and provisions, and on their departure to convey their things to the next village. The proper designation of the office is Tural, and, when distinct from that of the Muhar, has generally originated in the wants of Government servants in their visits to the village; a man of higher caste being required to perform those little offices that a Muhar, by the lowness of his caste, is incapacitated from. Where the office belongs to the Muhars, they have to find and pay a man of higher caste for the performance of these services, but where it is a distinct one, a separate remuneration is assigned to it, and sometimes an enam, called the Tural Shet. The average remuneration is $3\frac{1}{4}$ paelees per paeen.

Mang.—The Mang may or may not be an original hukdar, but he is not found in every village, one Mang frequently performing the duties of four or five villages. He is rope-maker, and sometimes basket-maker; he makes the muzzles for the oxen; one broom to each plough; ropes of hemp for the farmers, they finding the material, and preparing the first strands. He also makes leathern ropes from the raw hide, the Chambar, whose duty it is, refusing to work, except from curried leather. The average remuneration is $2\frac{1}{4}$ paelees per paeen.

Muhar.—The Muhar is emphatically called the village eye. He is the watchman and guardian of the village, and the living chronicle of its concerns. His situation or his curiosity makes him acquainted with everybody's affairs, and his evidence is required in every dispute. Should two cultivators quarrel respecting the boundaries of their fields, the Muhar's evidence ought to decide it; and should a similar quarrel happen between two villages, the Muhars are always the chief actors in it, and to their decision alone it is sometimes referred. The Muhar's duties are so numerous, that complete enumeration of them would be tiresome;—in short, the Muhar is to the village what a peon is to a Government office. In large villages, the duties are generally divided into two or three heads: these are the weskurs, or porters at the village gates; the khule-weskurs, or guards of the stack-yards; and the gaow-weskurs, or those Muhars appointed to attend at the Chowree; and the gaow Muhars, or those for the general duty of the village. The three former offices are generally held year about in turns, their perquisites being something larger, but the office of gaow Muhar is common to the whole Muhars of the village. The porter's duty is to guard the gate, and keep an account of who comes and who goes; he locks the gate at night, and takes the keys to the Patel. His extra remuneration is the daily collection of bread and broken victuals. The office in some instances is hereditary. The gaow-weskur is supposed to be stationed at the village Chowree: should travellers arrive, he warns Muhars to convey their baggage to the next village; if they alight for the night, he procures them grass and wood, and gives them general information where their wants may be supplied. If any Government letters arrive at the village,

* And this enam is generally cultivated by the Patel, or some other resident of the village, who pays the Bheel a portion of its produce as rent.

† The name of the post to which the bullocks are tied in the operation of treading out the corn.

he takes them to the Patel and Coolkurnee, and, if necessary, warns other Muhars to convey them to the next village, or to their destination. On the arrival of a Government officer for the collection of revenue, or other duty, he warns and collects all tenant farmers; and waits upon that officer during his stay, appointing others to find him fire-wood and grass, and to clean his horse. His perquisites are bread and broken victuals, and any chance present he may receive from travellers. The khule-weskur waits upon and guards the stack-yard during harvest time: he keeps a fire burning for the convenience of the workmen, and performs any occasional work required of him—as, on an emergency, the unloading of a gadee, pitching the sheaves on the stack, driving the bullocks in thrashing; and he makes himself generally useful, receiving in return small presents of broken ears, and handfulls of corn. *Gaow Muhar*.—The general duty of the Muhars of the village is to obey the gaow-weskur in finding Muhars for the conveying of the baggage of travellers, Government posts, &c., to the next village; to clean the horses of Government officers, to find them grass, firewood, and pickets.* Their village duties are to remain generally on the alert; to furnish a guard of watchmen at night for its protection; to remove all dead cattle (the skins of which are their perquisites†); and to run errands as warned by the weskur for the Patels and other Merasdars. Their remuneration is a Government enam; a tithe upon everything grown; presents of bread, and other articles begged for services performed, small imposts of oil, sugar, and condiments levied, or rather begged, from the shopkeepers. At some former period each village has had appointed to it a certain number of Muhars,—8, 12, or 16,—according to its size. The Muhar's office in such villages, therefore, is divided into 8, 12, or 16 shares, according to the original number appointed; but from the Muhars in some villages having greatly multiplied, each share may be again, subdivided into a number of other shares: thus, if there be three brothers to one share, they take it year about, each performing its services, and enjoying its remuneration, every third year; the other two, if possible, obtain service as ghorawallas at some Government cantonment, till their turn again arrives, or perhaps they gain a livelihood by selling grass and wood, or by engaging in an occasional pilfering expedition in some neighbouring district. The average remuneration is 14½ paelees per paeen, but they are subject to considerable deductions, Government and the Zemindars having a claim to their services, which not exacted, a tax, *Rabta*‡ is levied instead. Government also exacts a quit-rent from the largest of their enams, called Hudola,§ the smaller Hudkee being free.

Patel.—I have frequently had occasion in the course of this letter to allude to the situation of village officers, and I hope what I have there stated will afford a general view of their position. They may be considered as the relics of a brighter era of national prosperity; and they have in most instances profited by the mutability and continual changes of succeeding governments. Their standing in early times is described by Mr. Elphinstone to be purely that of Government servants, and I have endeavoured, in the 12th and 20th paragraphs of this letter, to point out their subsequent progress, and the chief sources of the dignity and profits of their offices. (The authority above quoted states the remuneration of the Patels to have been the provisions and other articles in kind to which the King was entitled from the village, and a glance at Table No. 3 will show that in substance the same system has been continued to the present day, though, perhaps, materially altered in detail. At that time, it would appear the Patel's impost was levied upon all classes of cultivators, on

* The Muhars find the wood—it is the Sootar's duty to form it into pegs.

† The Patels, as a mark of dignity, do not allow the Muhars the skins of cattle their own property; but they give them a small quantity of grain for their trouble in skinning them: this huk the Muhars call *hat dhone*, *हानधुनो*, washing hands.

‡ राबता; from राबणे, to labour.

§ हाडोळा, or चलादी, a lumped assessment on each hudola.

} Vide Table No. 5, column "Government Deductions."

the Thulwaheek, as on the Oopree; but, the former class predominating, would form an influential counterbalance to his power, though they *did* contribute to his support. From the advent of the Mahomedans, however, a different bearing and influence may be observed. The placing a total amount of revenue on each village, and holding the Patel responsible for the amount, would, as before observed, place much of the internal management of the village in his hands. It made him the feudal lord of his holding, the Zemindar of his village,—to use a revenue phrase, he was the Government Meerasdar, whose every arrangement, having for its object the increase of cultivation, was sanctioned.) It would be difficult to follow the internal windings of this system, as it must have varied with the ever-changing circumstances and fortune of the Patel. Were he in affluent circumstances, his system was entirely that of exclusion and self-aggrandizement, and the settlement of a new cultivator, shopkeeper, or artisan, could not be effected without his making considerable concessions: the new cultivator wishing to become a permanent settler must purchase the privilege with a handsome donation, and the occasional oopree, artisan, or shopkeeper, by submitting to the best terms of impost he could obtain. But fortune sometimes frowned, and the tunkha always remained, and had annually to be met: then, indeed, did necessity drive the plough, and a more liberal system was had recourse to. The imposts of the older inhabitants were remitted or sold to them; the settlement of new cultivators was courted; meeras was granted; and every effort made to meet the annually recurring tunkha.* Continued adversity necessitated the sale of a portion of the Patelship,—a fourth, a third, or a half, was disposed of, as exigency required; and should these efforts fail, all must suffer alike, and the deficiency be made up by a collection (wurga, wurgee, or tophir.) from the whole village: hence the many different systems obtaining in different villages—the turufundee, the kassbundee, &c. But the Patels did not possess imposts in all districts,† which could be owing only to the primitive superior position of the ancient Thulwaheeks or Meerasdars of such districts; but in this case even the revenue principle was the same, though the agency was somewhat different; that is, the body politic of Meerasdars constituted the Patel, they being in that sense liable for the Government demand; and the real Patel was merely a Government servant, who had no other remuneration beyond what he derived from Government. It will be evident, from what has been stated, that the position and influence of these officers might vary in every district, and in every village. In those districts where, from the most ancient times, the rest of the tenantry have retained their influence, and have submitted‡ as a body to the demands of Government, and have bound themselves to be answerable for the total revenue of their village, the Patel is little more than a Government servant; but where, either from the absence of such influence, or from any other cause, the Patel had been the chief responsible agent, he had gained a corresponding degree of influence over the rest of the inhabitants; and in many instances he exercised rather the functions of a feudal lord than filled the office of a Government servant. But the present change of system has effected a corresponding change in the circumstances of the Patel: each individual ryot being alone responsible for the assessment on his holding, the principal onus is removed from the Patel, and he is deprived of uncontrolled action, and shorn of a great portion of his dignity. (In most villages, the Patelship has been divided among a great number of sharers, and the increasing families of these sharers have caused it to be still further subdivided; and as each individual lays claim to his share in the produce of

* The reason for the sale of a portion of a Patelship, as generally stated in the deed of sale, is the seller's inability to meet the Government demand; and whether the tunkha system were continued or not, all Governments held the Patel responsible for the greatest amount of revenue his village could possibly pay.

† Instance Ankola, and some others.

‡ Vide paras. 14 and 17. Whether or not the Meerasdars came forward, they were held responsible by Government.

the Wutun,* they collectively present little more than the appearance of a beggarly mob of clamorants, who, by their internal feuds, greatly retard the objects of their office. The advantage of the office has in a great measure passed away, while its evil effects remain, so that much careful reform will be necessary before the Patel can efficaciously conduct the duties required of him.) I forbear describing the details of this officer's position, as these will be sufficiently understood from what has been already stated. (The chief dignity of the office depended on the uncontrolled position of the holder, and was enhanced by the comparative poverty of the people. The Patel of a large village was, indeed, a substantial person, and, compared with the humble inhabitants of his village, occupied an influential and enviable position : his authority was unquestionable, and his will absolute ; while his privileges of precedence on all public and social occasions formed, according to Native taste, an imposing picture of greatness. The profits of his office depended of course on the system of revenue pursued, and on his influence in the village. Under Native Governments his gains were seldom inquired after, as long as he produced the full amount of revenue, and the village appeared generally prosperous. His direct imposts would therefore depend upon his influence over the people, and the perquisites of his office upon the nature of the revenue system, and of the character of its executives. * Where, then, this officer had power to enforce his imposts, they were levied upon everything within his village ; upon every description of crop, manufacture and sale.) The detail of them would be tedious, but some idea of their extent, even as they existed in the year 1843-44, may be formed from Table No. 3, though this table will give a very imperfect idea of them as they existed in the olden times. (The average amount of grain levied by them was something more than 8 paelees per paeen) but, as the villages of this table are in many instances inhabited chiefly by the Patel's brotherhood, and other Meerasdars, who do not pay the Patel's impost, the average, as shown by it, is only $2\frac{3}{4}$ paelees per paeen.

Coolkurnee.†—The Village Accountant. A great part of what has been said of the Patel is almost equally applicable to the Coolkurnee, and it is only necessary to point out a few circumstances connected with his present tenor of office. His remuneration, it will be observed from Table No. 4, (is, with the exception of enams, more than that of the Patel, while his means of making money from other sources are, under the present Government, still greater than those possessed by that officer ; inasmuch as, being less dependent on and responsible to the Patel than he was under a Native Government, his opportunities for illicit gain are more under his own control. Few of the Patels can write, and, in consequence, they frequently hold a very secondary place to that of a designing Brahmun Coolkurnee, who in some instances runs entirely counter to the Patel, and is the cause of severe feuds in the village, the population of which becomes divided into two parties, one headed by the Coolkurnee, and the other by the Patel ; and many are the frauds which, from spite or for a bribe, are practised on the records of the village. A whole meeras may be transferred from one person to another, or even a new sharer of the Patelship be entered, with a view to its being discovered when sufficient time may have elapsed to give colour to the claim. There is also another practice of the Coolkurnees, which appears worthy of notice. In small villages, where probably the Coolkurnee and the Wannee are the only persons who can write in it, the poor ryot frequently calls upon the former to inspect his account with the latter. In this duty the Coolkurnee might be of great service to the poor ryot in detecting fraud, but he too often finds it his interest to combine with the Wannee to cheat the ryot. The Coolkurnee's office is in

* In some few districts the eldest son, or heir to the Wutun, alone enjoys the usufruct, but he alone is responsible for his father's debts, and not the brotherhood.

† कुळकर्णी; from कुळ, a debtor, or tenant, and कर्णी, a doer, an agent.

all cases an important one, and, in some of the larger villages, its duties are very onerous; but although, as with the Patel, in some instances we find his office divided among a number of co-sharers, we more frequently find that one individual holds the office, or is a co-sharer in the offices of three or four villages, a practice which causes much obstruction in the progress of revenue duty. I have heard that in some parts of Goojerat this officer's situation is not hereditary, but it is so in these districts; and old documents still extant will show it to be of most ancient standing. The Coolkurnee, though second to the Patel, generally possessed much influence, though he exercised it in a quieter manner; and as it was impossible the Patel could possess any gain or perquisite without the Coolkurnee's connivance, he generally managed to participate in it. His items of impost, therefore, do not differ much from those of the Patel: the average amount per paeen, as shown in Table No. 4, is $8\frac{1}{4}$ paelees, which is far more than is possessed by the Patels of the same villages; but the Coolkurnees, unlike the Patels, have no brother cultivators, who refuse to pay them huks, neither is meeras land free from the Coolkurnee's huks,—his imposts, therefore, being levied alike upon all descriptions of land, amount in the aggregate to much more than those of the Patels, which are subject to many remissions.)

Deshmookh and Deshpandee.—The duties of these officers are connected more with the revenue of a whole district than of a single village; but, as they are remunerated by the village, some notice of them would appear necessary. Deshmookh,* as the word implies, is the chief of a district; and Deshpandee† the district writer; so they are to the district what the Patel and Coolkurnee are to the village. The extract from Elphinstone's "History of India"‡ before quoted would show them to be officers of ancient standing, and of some note—probably the lords of a hundred villages; but the same causes which have changed the position of village officers have had a corresponding effect on them. From ancient records which have come under my notice, it would appear that these officers, in the earlier times of the Mahomedans, were entrusted with considerable power, and formed the chief branch of the executive; and it is recorded in Grant Duff's "History of the Mahrattas," that they were sometimes of sufficient importance to be treated with much consideration. But these are, perhaps, only solitary instances; for on other occasions, particularly in later years, they have been treated with much less consideration, when even the whole established right of hereditary succession has been made to yield to the force of superior individual interests. Their duties in ancient times were, perhaps, similar to those of the present Mamlutdars, and even under the earlier Mahomedans they were the principal revenue executive of their districts; but the introduction of the farming system§ in the time of the later Peishwas divested them of much of their importance, and under the present rule they have dwindled to little more than district Carcoons. I have never met with any records of their remuneration previous to the advent of the Mahomedans; but, if we may judge from Hindee names of impost still extant, they were remunerated from their villages. The same system was kept up under the Mahomedan rule, when old names were either changed or new imposts added. The Hindee names still in use

* देशमुख; from देश, a country, district, and मुख, chief.

† देशपांथा; from देश, and पांथ, a writer.

‡ Vide note to para. 5.

§ The farming system was one continued struggle between the Zemindars and the farmers of their district. Their interests being incompatible, it was difficult for them to act in concert. If the farmer attempted to look too closely into, or to diminish their gains, they invariably endeavoured to oust him, by representing to Government that the district could pay more, or that the farmer was oppressing the ryots; had he sufficient influence at Court, he might laugh at their efforts, but if he had no friends there, he was generally obliged to succumb. Jemadars of districts, therefore, which had been farmed for a considerable time by the same influential personage, have generally far less income than those of other districts: as instances of this, I may mention those of Newassée and Parneer, which were farmed for a long time by relatives of the late Peishwa, and where the Jemadar's remuneration is less than in any other districts I have visited.

are—Bheeknee,* Bhet,† and Rabta,‡ &c.; Mussulman names, since added, are Furmas,§ and Roosoom.|| Under the term bheeknee is said to have been collected grain in kind, similar to the Patel's adepade, and under that of furmas small internal village imposts, as grass and firewood; but roosoom is said always to have been a ready-money huk, deducted from the money set aside for village expenses. Besides these, there are several others of less importance; but as, under the present Government, they have in these districts all been done away with, and a ready-money allowance, payable from the Government treasury, granted instead, no particular notice of them appears necessary. The old names, however, are still kept up, as will be observed by the Zemindar's Table, No. 6, in which furmas is a permanent sum annually levied upon each village. Bheeknee¶ is levied by a separate rate per cent. for each village on its total revenue, determined from the average of a number of preceding years, and roosoom in this purgunna is two per cent. on the jagheer.** Their other huks are levied from the chiller, with the exception of rabta, which is levied direct from the Muhars.

The above are the principal officers of the village system; but, besides these, there are others in large villages, where circumstances or interests have called for them—as Durukhdar, Mahajun, Shete, Chowgoola, Havildar, and other minor servants; but as none of the villages now reported upon possess them, and as they are only occasionally to be met with, any further consideration of them does not appear necessary. There, however, yet remain the Kazee and Naeekwadee, two district officers appointed by the Mahomedans, and a district Bhut, whose office appears peculiar to this purgunna, as I have not met with it elsewhere.

Kazee.—The Kazee, under the Mahomedans, was the judicial officer of the district: his remuneration was enams in some or all the villages of his district—one rupee from each village, and in some districts ghee and provisions; besides these, he received fees for registering deeds of sale, and commissions of office, none being considered valid unless they bore his and the Zemindar's seals; he also received fees on marriages, and other religious ceremonies among his own people. His present income is derived from his enams, one rupee paid from the sadilwar of each village, and from several small fees for marriages, &c. among his own people.

Naeekwadee.—The Naeekwadee was a kind of hereditary district police soldier, attached to the Mamlutdar's department, receiving, besides his pay, one rupee from the sadilwar of each village.

Bhut.—In this district there is an Agnehotre Bhut, receiving one rupee from the sadilwar of each village. He is rather a pensioner on the bounty of the villagers than a person possessing any right to this huk; but, as it is paid to him from the sadilwar and entered in the Government records, it is necessary to include him among the recipients of Government remuneration, though his right to it may be a matter of question.

NATURE OF HUKS, &c.

22. The imposts are of different kinds, and bear different names, according to the kind of crop, and season, or place of collection, and also vary in different districts, both as to designation, kind, and quantity; they may be divided into two classes, those

* भोकणी; from भोकणे, to beg.

† भेट, meeting, interview.

‡ राबता; from राबणे, to labour; a cess upon the Muhars in lieu of their services, to which the Jemadars were entitled.

§ فرماش from فرمايش an order, command; that which has been ordered, commanded.

|| رسوم dues, taxes, fees.

¶ These arrangements have been made by the present Government.

** As the various items into which the revenue of the Peishwa's Government was divided is well known, any enumeration of them would appear unnecessary: the Jagheer in this district was cent. per cent.

belonging to the kalee,* or land, and those of the pandree, or interior of the village. Those of the former consist of a tithe of everything grown, and may be levied either while in the ear, or after thrashing, according to the custom of the village. Both customs are generally in force in the same village, and each may be again subdivided into such a number of items as the various interests and services may have called into existence, some of the principal of which are as follows :—

Goor† is the chief huk of the artisans and village servants, and consists of so many sheaves per paeen or chahoor of unthrashed corn, levied at the time of reaping, before it is taken from the field, or before it is thrashed in the stack-yard.‡ The aggregate amount of this huk will vary in proportion to the amount of the other huks received by the artisans, from about 150 to 800 sheaves per paeen. The average of the accompanying tables is 348 sheaves per paeen, and the average amount of grain yielded by them is 48 paelees per paeen, each hundred sheaves of corn being supposed to yield about 56 seers of grain more or less, according to their size and quality.

Nimboor.—A minor huk, collected by most of the village staff, properly when the corn is in the green ear, but sometimes when in the sheaf. The name varies according to the kind of grain : thus ears of bajree are called nimboor ; of wheat ombiya ; and of joharee hoorda,§ &c.: in these tables they have been collectively entered as nimboor.

Wanwula.||—Huks or tithes of the various kinds of grain, such as oil plants, &c. which are cultivated in too small quantities to warrant a regular impost ; it is also levied from tobacco, ambarree, hemp, and vegetables. The grains have been entered under this head in the tables ; but tobacco, vegetables, &c. not collectively being capable of weight or measurement, their value has been entered instead.

Adepade.¶—So much grain per paeen or chahoor, levied by the Patels from each tenant's heap. The average of this huk is about 8 paelees per paeen.

Aootkee.**—So much grain on, each plough levied by the Patels of some villages, instead of adepade. It is sometimes synonymous with adepade, and sometimes with Maparkee.

Maparkee,†† by measure : the Patel's huk in some villages is levied in this manner— that is, for every khundee of grain he receives two or more paelees, according to the custom of the village. The Muhars also possess this huk, but by them it is generally called Mojun or Pat.

Mooshaheera.‡‡—This huk, from its name, appears to have been granted by the Mahomedans as a remuneration to village officers when not remunerated by Government. It may either be a money assessment, or an impost in kind ;—if the former, it was levied as follows : the village officers were allowed to collect the amount of the village expenses, so much per cent. (in these districts 4 annas per rupee, or 25 per cent.) over and above the Government revenue ; out of which sum was paid the Desh-mookh's and Despandee's dues, the sadilwar, or village expenses, and the Patel's or Coolkurnee's stipend, as mooshaheera, which either might be a round sum, or so much

* काळी, black, *i. e.* the land, from its dark colour ; in opposition to पांढरी, white, *i. e.* the village, because it is generally built of white earth, from its superior power of resisting rain.

† गूड ; corn in the sheaf.

‡ The former method is the most general, but the latter may sometimes be met with.

§ निबूर ; बोया औया ; बुडा.

|| वानवळा ; from वान, sylvan, wild, ओळ, moist, green.

¶ आडेपाडे ; an alliterative formation of आड. interjacency ; intervention minor, that is perquisites from the several ryots, or perhaps from आड, as above, and पाड, price current, rate.

** आउटकी ; from आउट, a team, yoke of oxen ; and by metonymy a plough, or other agricultural implement.

†† सापारकी ; from साप, a measure, and आर, and की, affixes.

‡‡ सुशारा ; from مشهور pay, wages. It is properly a money assessment, and, when used to denote a huk in kind, it is through ignorance.

per cent. on the total collection, or so many annas per chahoor on the total amount cultivated ; or it might be levied separately, at so much per chahoor, from the ryots. As a ready-money huk, it was generally allowed to those whose other hüks in kind were not a sufficient remuneration for their services. As a huk in kind, it is a misnomer for Ghoogree, and is levied in these districts by the Coolkurnees as the Patels do their adepade.

Sulacee.*—When the farmer has thrashed out his corn, and the heap is ready for measurement, the Coolkurnee, in villages where this huk is in force, is called to measure it, and, at each tale of one hundred paelees, he puts aside a small heap, of one seer or more, according to his influence : on the completion of the measurement these heaps serve to show the number of tales, of one hundred paelees each, and the aggregate amount of grain ; the tale heaps are then collected, and taken by the Coolkurnee as his huk.

Odha.†—A haul ; a huk levied by the Coolkurnee, consisting of as much grain as he can with his clasped hands and circularly extended arms enclose and take away from each tenant's heap.

Bagaeet.‡—I have found it impossible, in the accompanying tables, to give any correct view of the rates and articles of impost on garden-land, and have, therefore, merely entered their value as in jeeraet. They consist of tithes of everything grown, but except in grain, which may be collected under the heads of adepade, wanwula, &c. they do not admit of any specific rates of collection, and are, if possible, still more vexatious and burdensome to the cultivator. Each individual of the village staff may expect and obtain a handful of fruit, a lap-full of peas or beans, and a wapha (small bed) of onions, carrots, or other vegetables ; but the voracious claims upon sugar-cane and its products are insatiable. The reaping of the cane and creaking of the sugar-mill are signals for the collection of a whole bevy of hungry applicants—Muhars, Mang, artisan, Patel, and Brahmin, alike flock to the gathering : a drink of juice, a stick of cane, and lump of sugar, may satisfy their immediate cravings, but their more weighty claims can only be appeased by more substantial gifts. The Patels, Coolkurnees, and Muhars, each, in some villages claim from one to two moulds§ of sugar per mill, and the rest of the staff in proportion, amounting in the aggregate, perhaps, to seven or eight maunds (of forty seers each) to each mill ; but as the quantity of cane grown to each mill is not uniform, the amount given must vary more or less, according to circumstances.

Pandree.||—The Pandree imposts consist of duties and customs collected under the head of Mohoturfa¶ by the Patel and Coolkurnee, as also in a less degree by the Muhars. The principal cesses are tithes of articles in kind from each manufacturer or vender—as a blanket from the Dhungurs ; one west of cloth woven by each description of loom ; viz. a piece of khadee from the Khutrees, a sarree from the Sallees, a dhotur from the Koostees, and a turban from the Mohmeen, levied each year. In some of the smaller villages, few if any of these classes are to be found ; but

* सळर, the tale ; the marker.

† ओढा ; from ओढणे, to pull.

‡ Very few of the villages reported upon contain garden-land.

§ The sizes of the moulds vary in different districts : in this, they are generally about 20 seers (40 lbs. avoirdupois). The aggregate claims of the whole staff on sugar-cane will therefore vary. In some villages it is as high as 200 seers or 400 lbs. per mill ; in others, perhaps, not much more than half that amount ; but as the amount cultivated to each mill varies much, its rates per beegha will vary also. If we average five beeghas to each mill, the above amount will show the aggregate amount of this huk to be from 20 to 40 seers of gool, or coarse sugar per beegha ; and, averaging the price of gool at about 15 seers per rupee, it will give a rate of from 1¼ to 2½ rupees per beegha in excess of the Government assessment.

|| Vide note to commencement of para. 22.

¶ موطرفه purchased, purchaseable.

in the larger ones they are sometimes numerous, and the huks levied from them are generally commuted into a money assessment. The Wanees are supposed to find the Patel and Coolkurnees with sooparee for daily consumption, and a quantity of sugar at festivals. The same may be said of the oil-man, but his impost is generally commuted into an annual money assessment on each oil-press. There are also imposts levied on several members of the village staff. The shoemaker has to contribute a pair of shoes each to the Patels, Coolkurnees, and Zemindars; and where there are two or more sharers in the Patelship, each sharer in some instances is entitled to a pair, in others only one sharer; but as the power to levy this impost is one of the many instances of dignity, each sharer generally endeavours to force it.* The shoemaker also finds leather halters for the Patel's bullocks at the Pola festival. The smith finds iron rings for those halters. The Muhars find firewood at the different festivals for the Patels and Coolkurnees; they also return the skins of any dead cattle belonging to the Patels, for which they are supposed to receive a little grain in return.† This privilege is another acknowledgment of dignity, and is rigidly enforced by the Patels. There are other minor imposts, but any minute examination of them does not appear necessary: some of the superior ones are as follow:—

Khureed Khut.‡—On the sale of any property, the Coolkurnee makes out the deed of sale, and receives a per-centage proportionate to his influence or power to exact it, from one to five per cent.

Khoteputra.§—Farmers frequently sell their crops by contract, as they stand in the field; the Coolkurnee makes out the agreement, and receives one rupee from the buyer or seller, as specified in the bargain.

Jukat.||—A cess (generally a pice) levied by the Patels and Coolkurnees on each bullock laden with merchandize as it passes through those villages entitled to exact it.

Pewbood.¶—Corn dealers frequently deposit their grain in under-ground stores, in the villages they purchase it at. The Coolkurnee and Muhars receive a tithe of such grain on the breaking up of the store, the one for keeping the accounts of it, the others for their labour in placing and extracting it.

*Lugnamoohoort.***—A turban or shawl levied on marriages by the Patel, according to the influence of the parties.

Shewsubjee.††—Tithes in kind on vegetable venders, levied by the Patels of market villages on market days.

Dhungurs.‡‡—A caste who either follow the vocation of shepherds, or of blanket-weavers, or both. In the former capacity they pay to the Patel one or more sheep per flock at the Dussera, and a little wool to the Coolkurnee; in the latter they give a blanket for each loom to both officers.

Sallee Koshtee.§§—Under this head are entered the imposts on the different descriptions of weavers, as above described, each contributing one piece of cloth per loom of the kind woven by him.

* The rescinding of the Moturpha dues has done away with this huk.

† Called હાતધુનો, washing hands. Vide note (†) to page 14.

‡ खरीदखत; from خریدن to purchase, and خط a writing.

§ खोतपत्र; from खोत, a contract, and पत्र, a letter, writing, deed.

|| كراوة customs, duties, taxes on exports or imports.

¶ પેવબુડ; from પેવ, a subterranean place to hold grain, and बुडणे, to sink, to be immersed; or from बुड, the bottom, i. e. the lowest or inferior grain, in which this huk is generally paid.

** लग्नसुहर्त; from लग्न, a first marriage, and सुहर्त, a second marriage.

†† سبوسبزی from سبوس business, trade, and سبزی green.

‡‡ धनगर, a caste; shepherds and blanket-weavers.

§§ साळीकोटो, two classes of weavers. Under that head are entered all classes of weavers from whom huks are received.

The above are the principal huks of this district, but besides these there are others, and many variations in the rate and method of collection. It is difficult to describe, with any degree of method, customs which are totally devoid of all order and regularity. Had these imposts originated in, or been controlled by any superior authority, some degree of regularity in the levying of them might have been expected; but where, on the one hand, they depend on the power of the recipients to exact, and, on the other, on the power of the contributors to resist that exaction, much identity in the articles taxed, and in the rate of taxation, cannot be expected. The accompanying tables have been drawn up with the intention of affording as broad a view of these imposts as the nature of the subject will admit of; but, from the difficulties already mentioned, great exactness in the definition of rates and quantities has—particularly under those headed pandree—been found impossible; and too nice an inquiry into them would only have excited suspicion, and ensured their falsification. They have been drawn up with as much minuteness as possible, but, for want of room, several distinct and minor imposts have been entered in one column, as the noticing of each separately would have increased the length of the table, without any advantage being derived from it.

23. The preceding description will, I hope, sufficiently explain the nature of huks, and the services for which they are given. It has been my wish to give as comprehensive and correct a view of them as possible, by entering in a tabular form each individual's income, under their several heads, and I have pursued this plan as far as possible, but, for reasons before stated, I have only partially succeeded. There is a table for each description of recipient for the thirty-three villages of the purgunna, which, with the help of the description contained in the preceding paragraph, will, I hope, be sufficiently perspicuous. Those of the Patels, Coolkurnees and Zemindars, have been prepared from the records in the Mamlutdar's office, as annually given in by the recipients, and checked by others from themselves; those for the artisans and Muhars have been prepared from reports called for by me from the Patels and Coolkurnees of the several villages, and I believe them all to be as correct as, under existing circumstances, it is possible to obtain. It is probable that motives may exist to induce the village officers to give in false statements of their purbhara huks, but, after a careful consideration of the subject, I am unable to say whether they would be led to exaggerate or to diminish the true amount. For the purpose of obtaining increased enam, or other Government allowance, it has always been their interest to represent them lower than the truth; but, on the other hand, as for some years past they have been aware that it is the wish of the present Government to give them compensation in lieu of these huks, it would appear now to be their interest, for the purpose of obtaining a greater amount of such compensation, to represent them to be above what they really receive. It is possible that the Patels, as possessing enam, have been actuated by the former motive, and have entered a trifle less, or at all events no more than they receive; while the Coolkurnees, as possessing no enam, and being fully alive to present circumstances, may have entered all they could lawfully lay claim to: but whether or not in some instances the Patels have entered somewhat less,—as many of these villages are inhabited principally by Patels who do not pay each other huks,—the total and average amount of them will not be much affected. With respect to the lower artisans and village servants, the probability appears in favour of the village officers giving in a lower rate of remuneration than the correct one, because they, as well as the ryots, feel it rather heavy, and documents of the kind given in to Government may at any future period be called upon by either party as proof of the correct rate of remuneration. The pandree imposts do not admit of the same definite rate of collection as those of the kalee, and it will be observed, that, though there are a number of columns in each table for the different heads and items liable to impost, few of them are entered. The articles of subsistence derived by the Muhars and other village servants from the pandree, being bread, and other articles, begged, rather than

levied, cannot properly be called imposts: but those of the village officers assume the form of customs; and, with respect to them, we naturally look for more specific rates of collection. But many of these villages do not contain a single Bunya's shop, or artisan, other than those of the Bara Bulotee, and in other villages, where they do exist, they may be so poor, that the proceeds arising from them may have been so small as not to have been considered worthy of being entered. There are villages, however, such as Kopergaon, Rahatee, and Puntamber, not liable to this disadvantage; and where, in such instances, there are none specified, it must be presumed that the recipients either have not deemed it advisable to enter them, or that they are of so mixed and indeterminate a description as not to admit of specification. The few that are entered, together with the description of some of those entered under their several names in paragraph 22, will, I hope, convey some idea of what they would amount to in such towns as Yowlia, Sungumneer, or Nassick. They are mentioned here because they existed in the year 1253, A. D. 1843-44, now reported upon; but they have since been done away with, and have lost their importance: their connection, however, with the income, and the sacrifices of village officers, required notice.

24. Allowing, then, that with regard to the kalee, or land imposts, these tables are correct, the rates and averages derived from them will afford data for determining two principal facts of the village system—1st, the sufficiency or otherwise of the remuneration to each individual of the village staff, as compared with the services rendered by him; and 2nd, the burden which the total amount of these imposts place upon the land.

25. The average amount (throwing out the minor fractions) of each individual's huk, has been entered under their separate heads in paragraph 21, and it is only necessary to multiply this average by an assumed average of cultivated land, in order to obtain each individual's total amount of remuneration in a moderate sized village.

*Statement showing the average Amount of Huks received by the Village Officers and Artisans of any Village in which there may be 80 paeens of Cultivation, also the sufficiency of those Huks for their support.**

Names of Hukdars.	Average remuneration per paeen.		Total Cultivation.	Amount per annum.	No. of days in the year.	Average Subsistence per diem.	Amount in Bushels per annum.
	Paelees.	Seers.	Paeens.	Seers.	Days.	Seers. Dec.	Bushels. Dec.
Patel	2	3½	} × 80 = {	900	} ÷ 365 = {	2. 4	34. 4
Coolkurnee .. .	8	3½		2840		7. 7	108. 8
Sootar	6	1		2000		5. 4	76. 6
Lohar	5	2½		1800		4. 9	68. 9
Chambhar .. .	5	2½		1800		4. 9	68. 9
Koombhar .. .	4	0¾		1340		3. 6	51. 3
Nhawee	4	0¾		1340		3. 6	51. 3
Pureet	4	2¾		1500		4. 1	57. 4
Bhut	2	3¼		900		2. 4	34. 4
Goorow	3	1		1040		2. 8	39. 8
Moolana	2	3¼		900		2. 4	34. 4
Sonar	2	1¼		740		2. 0	28. 3
Bheel	2	3¼		900		2. 4	34. 4
Kolee	3	1		1040		2. 8	39. 8
Mang	2	1¼		740		2. 8	28. 3
Muhar	14	2¾		4700		12. 8	180. 1

26. The second column of the above Statement exhibits each individual's average amount of huk per paeen, as derived from the accompanying tables, which average, being multiplied by 80 paeens, a fair amount of cultivation for a moderate sized village,

* For the proper understanding of the accompanying tables, it will be necessary to state that the Native dry measure of this district is computed as follows, viz: 4 seers equal one paelee; 16 paelees one mun; and 20 muns one khundee. The seer varies in almost every district, but the Nuggur seer is now being gradually introduced. The seer in use in the villages now reported upon is, I believe, nearly twice as large as that of Bombay, and one-fourth less than that of the adjoining district of Patoda. Its cubical contents, up-heaped measure, which is always used, is about 85 cubic inches.

will give each individual's total amount of huk for a year, as shown in the 3rd column, and which, again, divided by 365, will give his daily average of subsistence, as per 4th column. The last column of this table exhibits their total amount of huk for the year (vide column 3) converted into English bushels, assuming the seer to contain 85 cubic inches, as before stated. From $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 seers is considered a sufficient quantity for a day's subsistence for a family of five persons, adults and children, while the above table shows each individual's subsistence, derived from imposts on the land alone, to vary from $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 seers per diem, so that each individual member of the Bulootee is amply provided for. It is true that all villages do not contain 80 paeens of cultivated land, some being much smaller; but in that case one artisan is generally the hukdar of two or more villages. How far each individual is rewarded according to his services depends upon how those services are relatively estimated by the villagers. The Muhars, according to their number, have apparently the lowest rate of remuneration: as in a village of this size there should at least be eight Muhars, with their families; the above average, therefore, of 12.8 (twelve, decimal eight) seers, will give only $1\frac{1}{2}$ seers to each family per diem; but they have also a Government enam, and various other means of subsistence.

27. The above table comprehends merely the imposts on the land, and has nothing to do with those derived from the paudree, or interior of the village; it also refers to the imposts, and to the system, so far only as they relate to the adequate remuneration of the recipients, their bearing upon the ryots having still to be considered. Confining ourselves to the imposts in kind on the land, and referring to the tables, we find that the total amount of cultivation in this purgunna for the year in which these tables were

Vide Statement No. 9, prepared was 68,977 beeghas, and that the total amount of grain column 3. collected as imposts by each class of recipients was as follows:—

Statement showing the Total Amount and Value of Purbhara Huks, as collected from the Kalee, or Land, in Purgunna Koombharee, for the year 1253 Fuslee.

Stat. Col. Vide No. 3 13 ,, 4 15		Patels	Amount of Grain.				Value.			Sundries.			Total.		
			Khun.	Mds.	Pls.	Seers.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
		Koolkurnees.	11	17	8	1½	354	12	6	30	2	0	384	14	6
			65	16	13	1	1993	4	3	179	6	0	2172	10	3
		Total	77	14	5	2½	2348	0	9	209	8	0	2557	8	9
,, 5 23		Muhars ..	101	0	11	3½	3213	13	3	53	12	0	3267	9	3
,, 2 41		Artisans ..	356	13	11	1½	11274	8	0	178	11	6	11453	3	6
		Total	457	14	7	1	14488	5	3	232	7	6	14720	12	9
,, 9 30		Grand Total.	535	8	12	3½	16836	6	0	441	15	6	17278	5	6

I have kept the village officers separate from the rest, for the convenience of comparison, in a future paragraph. The amount of grain here stated is five hundred and

Vide Statement No. 9, thirty-five khundeas, eight muns, eleven paelees, and three and a column 3. half seers; which, reduced to seers, equal 6,85,359 seers ÷ 68,977

beeghas, the total amount of cultivation gives nearly ten seers to the beegha. The value of the above grain, as estimated by the Natives themselves, is Rs. 16,836-6-0; but, besides the grain, there are sundries, of which the value only could be entered, viz. Wanwula, Rs. 13-12-0; Bagaet, Rs. 281-14-6; and Coolkurnee's Nugde Mooshaheera, collected

Vide Statement No. 9, from the ryots, Rs. 146-15-0; Total Rs. 17,278-5-6; which also, column 30. divided by 68,977, gives Rs. 0-4-0 (four annas) per beegha—a

large sum when contrasted with the low rates introduced by the survey. This is the amount, according to the present value of grain; but, as the price of grain is continually fluctuating, this cannot be considered a permanent average of the expense borne by the ryot, for, were grain half as dear again as it is valued at in these tables, the average would then be six, instead of four annas, per beegha; and when, during the Native rule,

the price of grain varied from 5 to 7 paelees per rupee, it would approach nearly to eight annas per beegha. Four annas per beegha, however, I believe, is considered by the Natives themselves to be a fair estimate of the average expense borne by the cultivator on account of huks.

28. The above, as remarked in the last paragraph, relates to the land imposts alone, and is compiled from statements, the correctness of which there appears no sufficient reason to question. But, whatever error may exist in the individual rates of remuneration, there appears to have been no design to exaggerate their total value; for the value of the grain as here entered is, perhaps, somewhat below the market price which then prevailed, and in valuing this grain no account has been taken of 8,01,503 sheaves of straw received with it.

READY-MONEY GRANTS, ENAMS, &c.

29. Before summing up the total village expenditure, in order to show the expense of the system, it will be necessary to notice that part of it which comes under the head of Ready-money Grants, Sadilwar and Enams. The former in these districts appear to have been very rarely conferred on the Patels; and when such instances do occur, they appear to have been merely given as an occasional reward for the prosperous state of the village, as Seerpā, Pagota, and Tushreefee. Under the tunkha system, the Patels, being the farmers of their villages, probably had no regular assignment, either of land or money, but remunerated themselves from the surplus revenue of their villages; and the origin of many of these grants may, perhaps, be dated from the breaking up of that system. When the assignment was regular, it was called either Nemnookh,* or Mooshaheera,† and might be collected either over or above the Government revenue, or paid from it. The Coolkurnees, in some instances, it appears, possess both a Government and village Mooshaheera. The total grants to Patels and Coolkurnees in this district for the year reported upon are as follows:—

Statement showing the Amount of Ready-money Allowances paid to Village Officers in Fuslee 1253.

				Government.			Village.						Total.		
				Nemnookh, or Mooshaheera.			Seerpa.			Mooshaheera.					
				Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Vide Statement	No. 3	Cols. 3, 4	Patel... ..	130	4	0	31	0	0	0	0	0	161	4	0
„	4	1, 5	Coolkurnee ...	327	0	0	0	0	0	135	4	0	462	4	0
			Total...Rupees	457	4	0	31	0	0	135	4	0	623	8	0 †

30. Sadilwar.—It was stated in paragraph 22 that the village officers were allowed to collect 25 per cent., or four annas to the rupee, in excess of the Government revenue, for the purpose of paying the Jemadar's dues and village expenses. On the accession of the present Government, this was done away with, and in these districts 6 per cent. on the total collections payable from the Government treasury was allowed instead, the village authorities still being allowed the control over it. With a view of forming some idea of the actual application of this money, I called upon the village officers to furnish me with a memorandum of the several heads under which it had been expended in the preceding year, and the accompanying Statement (No. 8), it will be observed, gives a total expenditure of Rs. 2,439-3-0, being 6 per cent.‡ on Rs. 40,687-12-6, the total collection of revenue for that year. Under the word Hukdars is entered the sums paid to the Kazee, Zemindars, and

* नेमणुक ; from नेसणे, to appoint ; an appointed sum, provision.

† مشاہرا pay, wages.

‡ This does not include the ready-money payments to Jemadars, because, being paid from the Government Treasury, their stipends do not come under this head of village expenditure.

§ Throwing off fractions for each village.

Naeekwadees. Dewusthan comprehends the expenses of religious festivals, presents to officiating Brahmins, and oil and pigments, &c. for the temples. Dhurmadaee,—sums expended in charity to village pensioners, or to religious mendicants, &c. and contingencies,—includes pens, ink and paper, required for the village, oil for the Chowdee, and travelling expenses for the Patels and Coolkurnees, when proceeding to a distance on Government duty.

31. *Enams*.—The practice of granting rent-free lands, either as a subsistence, or a remuneration for services, appears, by the Hindoo names used to denote such grants, to have been of very ancient origin; but the absence of any general or abstract term for them would not lead us to suppose that the practice had been very general. If, under the tunkha or other early system, the village officers were answerable for one uniform annual assessment, which in the first place had been fixed sufficiently low to leave them a profit, they, perhaps, received neither enam nor other remuneration from Government, and the lands which these officers might grant for the subsistence of other servants of the village would either be at the expense of the contracting Patels, or of the whole village; such lands, therefore, when granted, would be designated by names, specifying their application, (as we find them to be,) without any general term denoting their freedom from the State, because the State might not have given them. Subsequently, however, on the breaking up of the tunkha system, Khairat* and other grants were, perhaps, conferred in the latter years of the Mahomedan Government, under the name of *enam*, and which name soon became applied to all classes of rent-free land. The following abstract of Table No. 7 will show the total enams of this district:—

Abstract of the different classes of Rent-free Lands in Purgunna Koombharee.

Description of Grant.	Under what Government obtained.						Possessing Sunnuds.	Not possessing Sunnuds.
	Unknown.	Mogul.	Peishwa.	Scindia.	British.	Total.		
	Beeghas.	Beeghas.	Beeghas.	Beeghas.	Beeghas.	Beeghas.		
2 Kazeer	415	1006	90	...	...	1511	1065	446
1 Zemindar... ..	...	1622	...	...	...	1622	1622	...
3 Patel	...	3285	...	120	...	3405	120	3285
4 Coolkurnee .. .	30	...	7	...	...	37	7	30
10 Muhar.	3485	...	...	...	...	3485	...	3485
7 Bheel	191	...	...	...	260	451	260	191
6 Halwutee	...	180	...	...	...	180	...	180
5 Taroo	...	...	54	...	...	54	...	54
14 Khairat	10	577	...	...	...	587	...	587
12 Dewusthan	209	97	210	30	...	546	106	440
13 Dhurmadaee .. .	...	250	60	...	...	310	40	270
15 Bukshish	25	600	854	580	40	2099	1505	594
17 Total... ..	4365	7617	1275	730	300	14287	4725	9562

Out of fourteen thousand two hundred and eighty-seven beeghas of rent-free land, only four thousand seven hundred and twenty-five beeghas have sunnuds: in fact, a careful perusal of this table will, I think, abundantly confirm the opinion that *bonâ fide* rent-free grants confirmed by sunnuds are comparatively of recent date, and that probably all the earlier, and many of the later grants have been bestowed by the village alone; some under the then existing system of revenue, with the tacit permission of the State, and others without either its authority or knowledge; but all of which, on the accession of our Government, the district and village officers took care to get confirmed.

32. Having now described the several customs relating to the position and influence of the village officials, and the sources of their emoluments, I may proceed to enumerate the total amount of village expenses, and to show how they bear on Government and the

* خیرات alms, charity.

ryots. The total area of the Koombharee Purgunna is, as before stated, 220,247* beeghas, out of which must be deducted 56,760 beeghas of waste, leaving 163,487* beeghas of culturable land, rated, according to the old kumall, at Rupees 1,76,694 ; the immediate expense of collecting which may be noted under two heads, namely, grants by enams, and ready-money grants, of so much per cent. on the collections, and may be stated as follows :—

	Total Arable Land.	Enams.	Per cent.	Estimated Ready-money Allowance.	Total per cent.
Beeghas	163,487	14,287	8.73		
Assessment..... Rupees	1,76,694	15,469	8.75	10 per cent.	18.73

Showing the immediate expense of collection to be about 19 per cent. of the whole kumall, that is 9 per cent. of enam, and 10 per cent. of ready-money grants. But, with respect to the enams, to strike the per-centage of the old kumall does not give a correct impression, because that kumall was never realized. I have, therefore, framed the following table, striking the per-centages from the collection for Fuslee 1253, namely Rs. 40,687-12-6 :—

Statement showing the Total Amount of Village Expenditure in the Koombharee Purgunna, for the year 1253 Fuslee.

		Names of Recipients.	Enams.	Ready-money Payment.	Total Government.	Purbhara Kalee Huks.	Total.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Vide Statement	No. Cols.	Kazee	1733 6 3	.....	1733 6 3	.....	1733 6 3
"	6 1, 5	Zemindars	1814 1 0	1133 14 6	2947 15 6	.....	2947 15 6
"	3 5, 13	Patels	3426 13 0	161 4 0	3588 1 0	384 14 6	3972 15 6
"	7 3						
"	4 1, 3, 15	Coolkurnees	35 4 3	327 0 0	362 4 3	2172 10 3	2534 14 6
"	7 4						
"	5 4, 23	Muhar	3663 12 6	.....	3663 12 6	3267 9 3	6931 5 9
"	2 31, 32	Bheel	460 13 3	.....	460 13 3	716 13 9	1177 11 0
"	7 5	Taroo	63 0 6	.....	63 0 6	.....	63 0 6
"	7 6	Halwutee.....	204 6 0	.....	204 6 0	.....	204 6 0
"	8 11	Sadilwar .....	.....	2439 3 0	2439 3 0	.....	2439 3 0
		Total	11401 8 9	4061 5 6	15462 14 3	6541 15 9	22004 14 0
		Per cent	28 0 4	9 15 8	38 0 0	16 1 3	54 1 3
"	9 28	Bukshish	4067 9 9	.....	4067 9 9	.....	4067 9 9
"	7 16	Artisans .....	.....	.....	.....	10736 5 9	10736 5 9
		Total	4067 9 9	.....	4067 9 9	10736 5 9	14803 15 6
		Per cent	9 15 11	.....	9 15 11	26 6 2	36 6 1
"	7 17	Grand Total....	15469 2 6	4061 5 6	19530 8 0	17278 5 6	36808 13 0
		Total per-centage.	38 0 5	9 15 8	48 0 1	42 7 4	90 7 5

To make the total of this Statement agree with the total of Statement No. 9, the Muhars' rabta, &c. should be deducted, and the pandree huks should be added—thus :—

		Total, Rupees	36,808 13 6
Vide Statement	No. Col. 5 9	Deduct as per column 9, Statement 5.....	468 15 9
		Remainder, Rupees....	36,339 13 9
"	9 31	Add, as above, pandree huks	2,323 11 0
			38,663 8 9

* The above details are derived from the records of the Mamlutdar's office, which, either from boundary disputes, or other causes, differ by 370 beeghas 11 pands from Statement No. 1, as given in by the village officers.

The ready-money payments are of course disbursed with reference to the amount of revenue collections, and are, as shown in the table, 10 per cent. of the revenue; but the enam, being a fixed allowance, its proportion to the amount of Government realizations will vary with the goodness or badness of the season. Thus, in the above Statement, it is 38 per cent. of the year's collections, which, together with the 10 per cent. in the form of money grants, makes a total expense to Government of 48 per cent. of its collections for that year. The huks paid by the ryots amount to 42 per cent., so that the total sum paid by Government and the ryots for the year in question is 90 per cent. of the collections. It is proper here to mention that Fuslee 1253 does not afford a fair specimen of the average collections of the purgunna; but even should the average collections be taken at double the sum realized that year, this would only affect the enam per-centage, reducing it from 38 to 19, and would still give a total expenditure on account of the village system of 70 per cent.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

33. In giving the above details of the village system, I have confined myself to those which bear immediately upon the question of huks, and the remuneration of village officers; and there are many points appertaining to revenue and police arrangements, as well as to the internal customs of the village, which I have purposely omitted to notice, as it was my object merely to show the general tendency of the village system, as bearing upon the subject under discussion.

34. Opinions may vary with regard to the inherent merits and efficacy of the system; but its indisputable primitive origin, and indestructible permanence, have, I believe, disposed most to regard it as an emanation of the wisdom and forethought of the patriarchal times. This view of it is certainly imposing, and, if correct, would go far to prove the inalienable rights of the village and its office-bearers; but my own inquiries have led me to a different conclusion, and to consider the system as having naturally arisen out of the wants of the people in a very early stage of society; and that it has been maintained by the self-interest of its office-bearers, and by its adaptation not only to the genius of the people, but to the views of their arbitrary rulers. On reviewing it, we find no particular rights or privileges possessed by the body of the people not office-bearers; no independence or equality; no civil rights, such as the freedom of election; no principle of progressive liberty. The privileges of the people were confined to the freedom of their village, and to the hereditarily occupying the same lands; but the advantages of immunities and pecuniary gain were enjoyed by the office-bearers alone. The necessities of a very early stage of society caused the villagers to encourage certain mechanics and servants permanently to settle in their villages, whom they remunerated by a payment in kind, which settlement and remuneration became, in course of time, an hereditary right, and increased in value, perhaps, by the increase of mechanical knowledge and competition. The same, to a certain extent, may be said of the village officers. Originally appointed by Government, and remunerated, perhaps solely, by an impost in kind on the land—constant changes of government, and of the revenue system, eventually converted them into hereditary farmers of their villages, the entire control and management of which were thrown into their hands. Thus the village officers and artisans were the persons by whose interests the system was upheld, the remainder of the inhabitants not possessing any particular interest, save the natural pride arising from the degrees of respectability attached to the two divisions of Thulwaheek and Oopree. (The system, then, was one of exclusion and official aggrandizement, but it was not without merit, as it formed a strong safe-guard against destructive changes, and afforded a ready and cheap method of collecting the Government revenue.) With the spirit of government then in force, it was inseparable, but the great change that has now taken place has entirely altered the position of the chief actors. Old interests are destroyed, and new ones generated, the various circumstances of which cannot be too much borne

in mind, whether as regards the amelioration of those who may have suffered, the irradiation of any noxious principle still extant, or the calling forth of other principles which may conduce to the well-being of the people.

35. The working of any system of revenue must depend in a great measure on the character of the subordinate agency employed on it, which, again, must depend on the nature of their remuneration, and on the character of the system. To ensure the fidelity and zeal of Native subordinates; it is necessary that their interests should be so bound up with those of Government, that injury or success may be reciprocal. It was, perhaps, on this principle that the Mahomedans acted, when they acknowledged the hereditary rights of the Patel, and made him the superior head of his village, who, being, as it were, the hereditary proprietor of those rights, possessed the strongest motives for its improvement. But this principle would appear to be either wrong, or its object impracticable, since the system has, perhaps, never been found to fulfil the ends for which it was intended. If the principle were correct, but failed in execution, it could only be from the misconduct of the subordinate agency; if its object were impracticable, it must have failed from causes in direct antagonism with the principle. In a financial point of view, the chief advantage and support of the system were its supposed immutability of operation, and the bringing into the Government treasury a specified amount of revenue with the least possible expense and trouble; but it is possible that the very means taken to ensure these effects were the chief causes of its failure. The Patel was liable for the demands of the district and Government officers, who were remunerated from the village, and whom it was necessary for him to conciliate. If the season were a bad one, he was the direct and chief loser; and if a good one, all claimed the privilege of participating in his gains. He was thus ostensibly liable for the greatest amount of revenue the village was capable of paying, and he had also to meet the rapacious demands of the district officials claiming remuneration from it; but he had no voice in the fixing of that amount, or of altering it to meet the exigencies of the season; and under these conflicting interests he too often found it expedient to make the most he could of the present, and to join in the general scramble for the spoil, seizing every feasible opportunity of establishing a new huk or item of gain. A system, therefore, which looks so well in theory, and which, with an agency of fewer interests, and higher moral qualifications, might have answered the expectations formed of it, was marred by the latitude of its operation, and the conflicting interests engaged in it. Whether or not I am right in attributing its failure to the causes here mentioned, it is certain that from the very earliest times there has been great confusion in its working, and that, with a general sense on the part of the ryots of the insecurity of property, there exists a still greater spirit of extortion among the officials; while this spirit has become so habitual to them, that any attempt at once to eradicate it must be hopeless; but the peculiar circumstances which have fostered it must be borne in mind, ere we can efficaciously introduce any new measure of improvement.

36. But should it be inferred, that as under the present improved system of revenue these causes do not exist,—that in removing the adverse interests of district and Government officials, Government have also removed all obstacles to the correct working of the system, and that the Patel may be safely entrusted with his legitimate duties,—I would observe that Government have not only removed the causes, but, in removing them, they have also changed the position of that officer. Government, in correctly defining, measuring, and assessing its lands, have removed the occasion for the services of the Patel in the particular channel they were before required; for if those lands be correctly and truly valued, so as to yield a sufficient profit to the cultivator, and all adverse official interests be also removed, private or individual interests will always be sufficiently strong to ensure their cultivation, without the assistance of the Patel; and if the cultivation of such lands be not sufficiently remunerative, any system of forcing cultivation must always be injurious. But if it be urged that the Patels might be legitimately and advantageously allowed to farm their respective villages, it should be borne in mind that we have not sufficiently advanced in reform to admit of this. We may have shut the

door upon corruption, but she still waits without, and any return to such a system would only be the re-opening it to her ravages. Both the moral principle of the officials, and the worldly condition of the people, must be changed, ere we can think of it. The adoption of such a measure under the present condition of the people would make some Sowcar the head of the village, the Patel his puppet, and the ryots his victims. The legitimate duties of the Patel, I conceive, should be purely those of a Government servant—those of a police officer and Government agent; and these in a large village will be sufficiently onerous to exercise all his zeal and ability. But as he is now situated, he possesses no inducement to the exercise of either: his huks on the land are generally mortgaged or swallowed up in grants of meeras, and his brotherhood claim the privilege of sharing with him the enam, leaving him a very paltry remuneration for his services, as will be observed from the following Table:—

Statement showing the Average Value of the Remuneration received by each Patel in the Koombharee Purgunna, for Fuslee 1253.

			No.	Government Remuneration.			Purbhara Huks.						Total.			Average per family.		
				Rs. a. p.			Kalee.			Pandree.			Rs. a. p.			Rs. a. p.		
No. Cols.																		
Vide Statement. 3 5, 13, 30, 31			Patéls . .	284	3,588	1 0	384	14	6	234	6	0	4,207	5	6	14	13	0

It will be seen from the above Statement, that although the total emolument received by the Patels is very considerable, being on an average Rupees 128 per village, the average amount enjoyed by each family is very small, being only Rupees 14-13-0.

37. Two plans, I am aware, have been proposed for the remuneration of village officers, any criticism of which on my part would be presumptuous; but I hope, after endeavouring to explain the tendency of the system, I may be allowed to point out a few principles, which, I conceive, should guide us in any endeavour to improve it: namely, to abstain as much as possible from changing, against the general wish of the people, any old custom not positively injurious; that whatever extra remuneration it may be thought fit to give, should be given in the direct name of pugar, and not on the principle of a huk or bab, thereby precluding all possibility of such remuneration being claimed as a right, rather than as a reward for services; that this remuneration should be granted to, and enjoyed by, the working official alone, and the rest of the Bhaoobund be debarred from it; and that in fixing any new scale of remuneration, special attention be paid to the leading features of the old.

38. Enam in these districts is considered rather as a present from Government than a remuneration for services—it is therefore claimed as the common property of the whole of the Patels, and is shared by them accordingly; but the number of sharers is in most instances so great, that it only gives a trifle to each. The mooshaheera and purbhara

huks are supposed to be enjoyed by the seniors of each tuksim share, but even these, when divided among the number of

tuksims, will afford only a small sum to each, (as will appear in most of the villages in Table No. 3,) and is by no means sufficient to encourage a working Patel to a zealous performance of his duties. Government already pays away a large and ample portion of its revenues to district and village officers; but, with respect to the Patels, it must either declare the enam and other allowances to be the remuneration of those in office only, or it must grant them others in lieu of them.

39. The chief official marks of the dignity of the Patel's office are his enam, and the power of levying huks: the general effect of huks, if judiciously exacted, may not be positively bad, but they open a wide field for extortion on the part of the village officers, and tend to keep up principles inimical to the improvement of the people. A village artisan, being remunerated by huks, is sure of a livelihood, and, not being liable to competition, has no inducement to improve himself in his art, and a ryot, being annually

subject to the payment of them, earned or not, is not thereby encouraged to preserve his implements. Irrespective of the channel which they open to extortion, they in some measure tend to give the village officer another position, and other interests, than those of a Government servant; they retard mechanical improvement, and promote quarrels between the recipient and the donor,—quarrels which will become more frequent and virulent as the ryot becomes more enlightened, and is enabled to procure cheaper and better labour. But at present it is neither possible nor advisable to abolish the whole

Vide Statement para. 32, in which the proportion of huks of village officers to the remainder is about 14 per cent. of the whole.

of these huks, and the Patel's and Coolkurnee's shares being only a small proportion of the whole, the abolishment of them alone would not afford much relief to the ryot, and perhaps no immediate beneficial effect might accrue; but if the tendency of the custom be such as I have described it to be, the abolition even of these would be the commencement of an amended principle, and an opening for future improvement.

40. These huks, as privileges of the olden times, are much esteemed by their holders, and are preserved (if only in name) not merely for present profit, but as openings for future increase. Any forcible abolition of them would, therefore, be extremely unpopular; yet, what from force or compulsion would be unpopular, might, if backed by a positive advantage, and left to the free choice of the people, gradually work its way into favour. The adoption of the measure for the Coolkurnees of the Poona district has, I have heard, much improved their condition, and, I would infer, has given general satisfaction. If, therefore, the extension of the measure be deemed advisable, and although here the Patels and Coolkurnees are much better off, I am inclined to think it might be carried into effect with their entire concurrence. I would not, however, promulgate it as an order, but, after fixing a scale of remuneration, leave it to their free choice; and though, in some instances, it might not be accepted at first, a positive good would not be long rejected. There are districts into which its introduction would be comparatively easy; the village officers of Ankola, Newassee, and Parneer, I am told, with few exceptions, possess neither enams nor huks, but are remunerated almost entirely by Government mooshaheera, and the introduction of the measure into these districts would not be a change of custom, but a remodelling of the old one. The senior Patels of Jamkher and several other districts, also, I am told, after becoming answerable for their fathers' debts, are the sole enjoyers of the Patel's enam, and other Government allowances,—a circumstance which would materially facilitate the settlement of these districts.

41. The remuneration in lieu of huks should be on a sufficiently liberal scale to induce the village officers to forego them. Table No. 10 will show the amount and average of these huks for the last four years, from which may be made an estimate for the allowance of each officer whom it may be desirable to remunerate: the following is the abstract total of this Table, from which will be seen the proportion of the several items of remuneration now received:—

Abstract of Table No. 10, showing the Average of Remuneration received for the last four years by the Patels and Coolkurnees of Purgunna Koombharee.

			Government.						Purbhara.						Total.			
			Enam.			Mooshaheera.			Kalee.			Pandree.						
			Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	
Vide Stat.	10	4	Patels	3,426	13	0	187	13	3	386	8	10	226	10	0	4,227	13	1
„	10	6	Coolkurnees	35	4	3	384	8	0	2,362	13	9	33	5	3	2,815	15	3
Total. . .			3,462	1	3	472	5	3	2,749	6	7	259	15	3	7,043	12	4*	

* The average of cultivation and collections for these years:—

Average of cultivation	Beeghas	72,655
„ of assessment	Rupees	74,156
„ of remissions	„	21,574
„ of collections	„	52,582

42. The above, it will be observed, corresponds with the rest of the tables, showing the Patel to be remunerated chiefly by his enam, and the Coolkurnee by his purbhara huks. The pandree huks, it may here be mentioned, have been done away with by the late Government order respecting moturfa. The amount of enam is of course the same, whether the whole or a part of the village be cultivated, but the purbhara huks will vary with the amount cultivated. Owing to the number of Merasdars not paying huks to the Patel, it is impossible correctly to ascertain what would be his total income were the whole of his village cultivated, but this difficulty does not appertain to the Coolkurnee, as he receives alike from all: the total amount for each is shown in Table No. 9, as estimated from what they receive for the proportion already cultivated.

43. Should you deem it expedient to form a scale of remuneration for either of these officers, similar to that in the Poona district, I would beg to call your attention to the suggestion contained in a former paragraph, that whatever be given may be given under the direct name of pugar, and not as a huk or bab. That which is given in Poona and Guzerat may, to all intents and purposes, be pay, but, unless it bear the name, it is not considered as such: more depends on the signification of a word than may at first be apparent, the truth of which is exemplified by the very subject in question. The Mahomedans were, perhaps, the first who granted a ready-money allowance, and that they granted it as pay, and not as a huk, is evident from the denomination (Mooshaheera) under which they gave it; ^{مشارا} pay, or wages; but as they gave it the name it bore in their own language, and not in that of the country, its meaning was misunderstood, and its effect perverted, as mooshaheera is to this day universally considered as a huk, and not as pay. I have before explained the tendency of the village officers to pervert and make the most of a measure as here shown; and as in making this arrangement the chief object would be to break up that tendency, and not to add to the intricacies of the system, I conceive too much care cannot be taken to avoid the error in question. It is difficult to determine what method of remuneration is best calculated to insure a correct performance of duty, without pressing too heavily on the ryots. The advocates of the old system say, that if the village officer be remunerated by the ryots, he, being, as it were, their servant, would be the more likely to labour for their interest; but by this supposition it is incorrectly inferred that the interests of Government and the ryots are at variance, and that the village officer is the protector of the ryot from the avarice and oppression of Government.

44. Remuneration from per-centages upon Government revenue would appear to be best calculated to insure Government interests: but it lies under the objection of partaking more of the nature of a huk or bab than of pay; and it is possible that in some instances it might tend rather to produce a superficial prosperity than solid improvement. Under the old system, it was one of the principal duties of the Patel to encourage cultivation by procuring loans from the Sowcar for the ryots, and by assisting them to procure bullocks and other necessities; but this plan tended only to enrich the Sowcars, and was always inimical to the true interests of the village. The Mahomedans, in granting mooshaheera, frequently assigned a lumped allowance to the Patel or Coolkurnee, according to the size of the village, and other sources of remuneration, a plan which, under proper modification, might be adopted in future. The pay of both Patel and Coolkurnee, for instance, might be fixed on a fair estimate of the average amount of collections on the new rates—say three-fourths of the new kumall. Pay fixed with care on this principle would, in a number of years, vary very little from the correctness of a per-centage allowance, while any reduction, as a punishment, or increase as a reward, would then have its due effect. Take, for instance, a village the new kumall of which is Rupees 1,600, and in which village the Patel has neither enam nor purbhara huks. After a careful consideration of the circumstances of such village, let us endeavour to estimate the probable average of its future collections, say Rupees 1,200, and in

consideration of the Patel having no other sources of income, say it is determined to fix the pay of that village at (about 5 per cent. of its probable average collections) a round sum of Rupees 60 per annum, under the direct vernacular name of pugar. If the estimate of the probable average collections were made with sufficient care, the average deviation in a number of years would, I imagine, be very small, and an occasional reward of a pair of bullocks or Europe plough for diligence, or fine for negligence, would then have its due effect, and would considerably tend to diminish that professional spirit so injurious to Government interests, which is so prevalent among Patels, and which spirit all huks and per-centages tend to foster.

45. As far as my limited space would allow me to examine so vast a subject, I have endeavoured to show that the present system of remuneration has solely grown out of the different revenue systems that have prevailed. I have first noticed the ancient Hindoo system when the assessment was paid in kind, and the village officers were remunerated in kind also. Next, the advent of the Mahomedans and the introduction of the tunkha system, under which the Patel, being the farmer of his village, was his own master, and *remunerated himself*. After this, the introduction by the Mahomedans of the Bheeghownee system, which would appear to have early failed to fulfil the expectations of its projectors; hence the kassbundee, turrufbundee, and other modifications of it, together with the various methods of remuneration appertaining to them, viz. remuneration by purbhara huks only, by enam, by mooshahera, or by two or more of these combined. And after the Mahomedan, I have noticed the Native Murathee Government, under which prevailed the farming system, and under which the remuneration depended on the strength of the several parties, and on circumstances. The Patel, having contracted with the farmer to produce a certain amount of revenue, was, for the purpose of increasing cultivation, frequently compelled to forego his purbhara huks, trusting for his remuneration chiefly to the chiller expenses, and to other surreptitious means. A nominal enam, if not enjoyed, was still kept on the village papers, the claims to which, and to other obsolete huks, were preferred on the accession of the present Government. In fact, it appears evident, both from inquiry and from examination of the various methods of remuneration now in force in different districts, that the method of remuneration has continually been changed, either in accordance with the changes of the revenue system, or according to the wisdom or caprice of succeeding Native revenue officers. And this being the case, there appears no sufficient reason for Government to hesitate in introducing any new method more adapted to its present system of revenue. But the introduction of a measure so important as the revision of the method of remunerating district and village officers, should, I conceive, be based upon as broad a foundation as possible, both with the view of its application to any particular district, and to the extension of the same plan throughout the Deccan. For instance, the districts in which enams are enjoyed by the Patels, or in which they are shared by the whole Patels' brotherhood, may be so few as to warrant Government in abolishing the Patel's enam altogether, or at least in awarding it as remuneration to the working Patel alone. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest, that a Return similar to the following should be called for from every district throughout the Zilla, and from Poona, and other Zillas, if possible :—

Return showing the nature of Remuneration received by the Patels of the Nuggur Zilla.

Name of District.	No. of Arable Beeghas.	No. of Villages.	No. of Patels.		Remuneration.				Total.	Remarks.
			No. of Tuk- sims.	Total No. of Sharers.	Enam.		Average of last 4 years.			
							Ready- Money Allowances.	Purbhara Huks last 4 years.		
					Beeghas.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
Koombharee ..	163487	33	76	284	34053	3,426 1 3	187 13 0	613 2 10½	4,227 13 1½	
Jamkeir ... ..	.....	..	..	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Ankola ... ..	.....	..	..	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	

Returns similar to the above, from as many Zillas as possible, would show at one view the nature of the different methods of remuneration which prevail in their several districts, and would greatly aid us in the formation of a new and general plan.

46. The Jemadar's remuneration in these districts would appear to have been previously revised; and as they are now remunerated entirely from the Government treasury, no further revision appears necessary, unless it be intended to grant them compensation for their purbhara huks, which are now rescinded.

47. In the 14th and 19th paragraphs of this letter I entered somewhat largely into the nature of the meeras tenure, and I would now beg to call your attention to the injury to cultivation which may arise from it. I described meeras as that property arising from long occupation and improvement; but I endeavoured to show that present usages have converted it into a nominal property, the value of which consists in the freedom from the Patel's impost, and which property is contained in every description of culturable land, either on the part of the Patel who has retained his impost, or on the part of the Meerasdar who has purchased the freedom from it. In villages where the greater part of meeras land belongs to the Patels, and where it has not yet been divided by them, there are continual quarrels for possession. Where, also, an individual has more meeras than he can cultivate, he, by various means, endeavours to maintain a control over it, so that he may obtain possession of it when required, or that he may receive some profit upon it. There can be no doubt that meeras in small portions is beneficial, as it affords an inducement to improve agriculture, and encourages the digging of wells; but in large quantities it would appear to have an opposite effect. It was encouraged by the Mahomedans for the purpose of increasing cultivation, it being a matter of little consequence to them whether the owner himself cultivated it, or re-let it to another; but as we do not now hold him responsible for its cultivation, nor subject him to any loss on its laying waste, it would not be unreasonable to deprive him of the power of injurious interference. Any direct abrogation of the meeras privileges would, of course, be extremely unpopular, neither is it required. Government has already forbidden the cultivator of another's meeras to be ejected, which was the first grand blow to the evil; and it now only appears necessary to allow as little sub-letting as possible. It, therefore, seems advisable to do away with the ambiguous term Gaow-Nisbet-Meeras, and to require the division of the Patel's Sumaeeek Meeras, which might be effected by the aid of the district establishment previous to the commencement of the survey; and to take care, when letting land on the new rates, not to allow a meerasdar or other individual to take up land for the purpose of re-letting, a practice which, however it may temporarily increase cultivation, is, under the present state of the agricultural class, exceedingly pernicious. A few precautions like these, together with the commutation of the Patel's huks, would, I conceive, remove most of the evils to which the meeras tenure is subject. That these evils are similar to what I have stated, will readily be apprehended from the fact that so few ryots avail themselves of the permission of Government for new meeras being granted to them: no doubt the Patels, for the purpose of retaining their huks, offer every opposition, and a meeras paying huks is little more valuable than oopree land, where land is so plentiful.

48. In paragraph 30 I gave an account of the chilher expenses, and it now appears necessary to consider how far this money is expended for the good of the village. Under Native Governments the chilher expenditure was sanctioned, ostensibly for the support of Government officials during their visits to the village, as well as for its other contingent expenses. The Patels and Coolkurnees had charge of this allowance, but, as in other cases of the ancient revenue system, there were too many adverse interests engaged to admit of the money being expended for the real good of the village. The fact of the expenditure of a portion of it being authorized for the support of Government officers in their visits to the village, enabled those people to lay claim to all they could obtain; and the Patels too often found it necessary to purchase their pretended services in higher

quarters, or their forbearance from hostility. Under these circumstances, the chilher expenditure was perhaps never inquired after, and the village officers were tacitly recognized as the uncontrolled disbursers of it. They might, from the example set them by the higher officials, endeavour to appropriate a portion of it to their own use; but religious Brahmins, and other mendicants, being aware of the large sum allowed, have generally, it appears, managed to obtain a share. A sum of money, therefore, which, under proper management, was amply sufficient for the erection of public works, and the improvement of the village, became the prey of official and religious plünders, or was frittered away in foolish spectacles and ceremonies.

49. Such was its application under the Native Governments: the present Government, however, though it curtailed the amount, expected it to be applied in a proper manner, and various arrangements have been made to prevent peculation; but, excepting bribes to Government officers, the original objects of its application would appear to be nearly the same. The average amount expended in charity (dhurmadaee) is about one-tenth; on religious ceremonies (dewusthan) one-fourth; and for paper, and other contingencies, and the expenses of village officers in their journeys to and from the district cutcherry, more than one-half of the whole chilher. There being no rules whereby to restrict or check the expenditure in charity, it is difficult to form an opinion whether the sums recorded under that head have been laid out in the manner specified, but the paper and travelling expenses are in some measure open to investigation, and may be tested by assuming any averaged size village as a specimen, and allowing a liberal sum for each item. Take, then, a village the amount of the collections of which in any one year is Rupees 2,000: this, at 6 per cent., gives chilher Rupees 120.

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE.

	Rs.	a.	p.
Kazee and other Hukdars.....	5	0	0
Paper for 5 Account Books, and Sundries.....	10	0	0
Oil for Village Chowdee.....	2	0	0

Travelling Expenses.

	Days.	
For 2 Patels, 1 Coolkurnee, and 2 Muhars at Jumma-bundy days	30	
Ditto conveying Revenue Treasure by instalments ..	8	
Ditto Police and other duties.....	15	
Total for 5 individuals, at 6 annas per day	53	= 19 14 0
1 Patel, 1 Coolkurnee, giving in Accounts at the end of the year, days 15—at 3 annas per diem		2 13 0
Coolkurnee for various miscellaneous duties, days 15, at 1 anna per diem		0 15 0
Total Travelling Expenses.....		Rs. 23 10 0
Total Contingent Expenditure.....		Rs. 40 10 0

And leaving Rupees 80 at the disposal of the village.

50. The above calculation would show that, on a most liberal scale of allowance, the legitimate expenses might be much curtailed, though it is only fair to add, that under the head of Pot-Khurch is frequently entered the expenses of the several tomashas (spectacles) at the festivals, and other minor items. In villages where the working Patel and Coolkurnee have sufficient influence to lead, or address to deceive, their fellow-sharers, it is possible they may save and appropriate to their own use a part of the sum entrusted to them; but in cases where they are not so successful, they must spend a portion of it according to the prevailing taste, and find the village with the usual festive entertainments. Considering the frequencies of the journeys of village officers to the

district cutcherry on Government duty, and their right to defray the expenses of such journeys from the public purse, together with the other claims upon the sadilwar, peculation to any serious amount may not be carried on in small villages. Instances, however, may occur in large villages near the district cutcherry, where they have a greater amount at their disposal, and, having a less distance to go, have less in proportion to do with it than in the case of a small village. And it may be admitted as a general rule, that small villages are much worse off in this respect than large ones, and that they have little to spare if their officers are allowed to defray their travelling expenses from it.

Vide Statement No. 8. Take, for instance, two villages from the accompanying table, one a small one, "Gharee," whose amount of contingent expenses is Rupees 20, and the other a large one, "Kokumthan," whose contingent expenses is Rupees 219, and it will readily be perceived that the former can have barely met its expenses, while the latter may have had a large surplus.

51. Admitting, however, that these sums have been expended in the manner there detailed, the question still suggests itself—Is this expenditure necessary—and might not the money be more usefully employed? If we direct our attention to the villages themselves, we can be at no loss to determine where it might be beneficially expended. Ruined chowdees, bundaras, and wells; broken down gateways, and dilapidated walls, most impressively point out the legitimate but neglected objects of its application. But as these have usually been repaired by Government, or by the Patels from their profits, and as the villages have been accustomed to some little expenditure in the manner now applied, and which is perhaps necessary, it is to be feared that few opportunities would be found of introducing such application. Still much might be effected by changing the supervision of this money, by placing it at the disposal of the whole village, instead of its officers, and by endeavouring to excite a little of that public spirit of which the Natives are so void. The Meerasdars might be required to meet and determine how they wished the money to be applied previous to its being issued from the treasury; and though in many instances this arrangement might be productive of little apparent benefit, it would give rise to a principle which, hereafter, would lead to great results.

52. The subject of the preceding paragraph forcibly brings to our notice the utter incapacity of the village to renovate or improve itself: that it possesses the quality of permanence cannot be denied, but that very permanence would appear to be the mere effect of its torpidity. In how many instances would an active and self-progressive agency be of benefit—but how utterly incapable of originating or carrying into effect any schemes of improvement is the present one! Whether we examine the smallest village or the largest city, we are sure to find that, if anything be required for the good of the people, it must either be effected by Government, or by the charity of a private individual; and that as soon as the influence or protection of either be removed, the structure which it had raised will moulder to decay. As a case in point, I may mention one of many that has come to my notice. Yewla is a thriving market town of some note, which was founded about the commencement of the last century by the exertions of an ancestor of the present Patel, who, having money at his disposal, and being desirous of increasing the value of his patrimony, encouraged the settlement of merchants, shopkeepers, and artisans, by advancing them money, or giving them ground to build upon, but at the same time stipulating for his right to levy the usual imposts for himself and for Government. These fostering arrangements, together with the happy adaptation of its saline waters to the dyeing of silk, soon collected a number of silk-weavers, dyers, sowcars and others, and converted it into a rising market town. Yewla thus prospered; but it suffered from scarcity of water during the hot season. The town is built on the side of a slightly elevated plateau declining from the hills, with a rivulet on each side, but these rivulets are at such a distance as not to be available for supplying the town with water: the wells are deep, and generally dry in summer. The munificence of some

individual in byegone days had formed a tank, but it has since become choked with mud, and is consequently useless. As usual in such cases, the Patel might have afforded some assistance from his profits, but he had become involved, and lacked the means; or he might, in virtue of his office, (by forming a subscription, or what not,) have made the necessary arrangements; but this was contrary to the regulations of the present Government. During the last few years, several efforts, I understand, have been made to induce the present Government to form an aqueduct, and it had consented to defray half the expense, if the inhabitants would defray the rest. A subscription list was set on foot, but the amount of promised subscriptions fell short of the sum required, and the measure failed, through the dissension or disunion of its promoters. Government subsequently rescinded the mohoturfa, or town dues. A petition was again made for an aqueduct, and Government again professed its willingness to bear half the expense, if the town would bear the remainder, urging at the same time that, as it had relieved the people from so great an amount of taxes, they ought cordially to co-operate in effecting an object entirely for their own benefit. Another attempt was made at a subscription, but seemed again likely to fail from want of unity among the inhabitants; they stating that they would gladly continue to pay the mohoturfa tax, if Government would supply the town with water. How the matter has since ended I have not heard, but it is probable that nearly one-half the less opulent inhabitants will have to leave the town this season for want of water.

53. I have been thus explicit, because this instance affords an excellent illustration of the system in reference to our present mode of government. From this statement we gather the following facts:—

1st. That a rising manufacturing town is much distressed for want of water, and its improvement thereby impeded.

2nd. That under the former system of government the Patel, or some other influential person, most probably, would have made the necessary arrangement for supplying it, but which arrangement is incompatible with the present system.

3rd. That if the ancient town taxes were still in force, they might be applied to the object in question, but that having been abolished, they are now not available.

4th. That the present Government might have made the necessary improvement, and that it offered to find one-half of the sum required; but that, owing to the disunion of the people, the measure is in danger of falling to the ground, and the improvement of the town being sacrificed. These facts are not peculiar to this town alone, but, with slight modifications, are equally applicable to most of the large towns of the Deccan; for they almost all want some assistance, but possess no principle of action within themselves to carry it out; and we may infer that the system is unequal to the maintaining any community beyond that of a village, and that, even in this limited sphere, by cutting the gains of its officers, illegal and injurious though they were, we deprived them of the little power of doing good they once possessed, without providing any adequate substitute.

54. It may be found necessary, for the sake of good government, to bring the village and district officers, as much as possible, within the limits of Government servants, but it is next to impossible that Government can attend to those minor local improvements, which can only come under the eye of interested local residents. These officers, from a long course of corruption, have incapacitated themselves from exercising the original functions of their office for the good of the people; and the effect of this is, that the people themselves cease to take an interest in, and are incapable of, conducting public affairs. The troubles of Europe in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries taught her people, in framing their municipal corporations, to resist tyranny, and to lay a sure foundation of freedom and prosperity; but the oppression of ages has failed to stimulate those of Asia to raise a single bulwark in their defence. The cause of this is their hereditary village or patriarchal Governments; the effect is, that the people have no aptness or capacity to

conduct the smallest operation which may be requisite for their improvement. But still, with a right use of the knowledge thus conveyed to us, much may be done; and I would beg to bring to your notice the propriety, of endeavouring to form some local fund, or means of carrying out those measures which are so vitally requisite for the well-being of the people.

55. In the instance I have given, it would seem to have been advisable to have kept on the mohoturfa tax, allowing its proceeds to go towards the construction of the aqueduct; and this suggests the idea, that in abolishing the tax it would have been well to have kept on a part of it to form a fund for city and village improvements. Government, I believe, in rescinding the tax, had it in contemplation to devise means for the improvement of villages, the repair of their walls, &c. I am not aware whether it was intended to levy a new cess for this object, or to devote a part of its present revenues to it; some assignment, however, is required, and it perhaps might be necessary in large towns to levy an assessment for the purpose; but were Government sufficiently to remunerate village officers, so as to remove their claims upon the chilher, it might form a fund sufficient for the purposes in view. With respect to the merits of levying an assessment in large towns for this object, it does not appear necessary for me to give an opinion, but I may mention that there are a great number of Brahmins, Sowcars, Wannees, and others, who pay no assessment beyond that of a trifling excise; and it appears nothing but fair that wealthy residents and traders should contribute to the prosperity of the place in which they live.

56. Some assessment or assignment having been provided for the purposes before mentioned, there would still be a great difficulty in securing its legitimate application. Village and district officers are not to be trusted; other minor Government officers would not have leisure, and if they had, it would only be subjecting them to temptation; and it might be difficult to induce a respectable Native to labour for the public good, or to subject himself, *as they conceive*, to the danger of disgrace, in being falsely charged with, and punished for, malpractices, at the design of some rival. The fact is, that district and village officials have always endeavoured to impress the people with this feeling, and to prevent their assuming functions which they consider to be peculiarly their own, and any infringement of which they conceive lowers their dignity, and weakens their authority. A measure of this kind would, therefore, meet with the most strenuous opposition on the part of these officials; but the benefit to be derived from it is sufficient to make its attainment worth a trial. That respectable Natives are fully alive to the honor of being called to consult upon public affairs, may be inferred from the fact of the importance they attach to the privilege of occasionally being called upon by Moonsiffs and Mamlutdars, as juries, to determine any doubtful or knotty point under investigation. And I conceive that this feeling, with a little fostering care, might be turned to the public good: it would be too much to expect them to originate or to carry through any measure without assistance, and it would be necessary for Government both to collect the assessment, and to have some control over its application; but a town council, elected annually, might be found to deliberate upon measures required for the public good, and their sanction should be required to the expenditure.

57. That some such measure is requisite, is evident from the present state of all large towns throughout the Presidency, and the utter impossibility of Government directing its attention to, or becoming acquainted with, the various local arrangements so requisite for their prosperity. Could Natives, particularly in manufacturing towns, be induced to take an interest in their local government, the improvement to manufactures and commerce might be immense; and, it is to be hoped, the moral effect on the people would be equally great; but it must be confessed that the introduction of such a system would be a work of time, labour, and difficulty: the opposition of interested officials, and the indolence and apathy of the people themselves, would all have to be overcome.

58. In conclusion, I must apologize for the unusual length of this Report. In its preparation I was desirous, for the proper understanding of the subject, to portray the

characteristics and tendency of the system, and to distinguish between its adaptation to the spirit of the present and of former Governments. The present subject appears to me to be an important one,—one in which there are two methods of procedure, diametrically opposite to each other: the first is, by continuing the former method of remuneration, to preserve the spirit of the ancient system, and the influence of its officials; the second is, by making these officials purely Government servants, and throwing more of the domestic management of a community into the hands of its members, to teach the people to think and to act for themselves, and to lay the foundation of those domestic institutions so necessary for their improvement. That the former method is fully compatible with good government, there cannot be a doubt—if by good government be meant the mere subjection of the people; but is it conducive to their intellectual or moral improvement? Let the past history and the present state of Asia answer the question. Not only the history of Asia, but that of the world, will show that the domestic and political institutions of a country form the basis of its moral and national prosperity. It is true that the spirit of free institutions has sometimes tended to anarchy, but it is for the statesman, in framing these institutions, to adapt them to the wants and to the temperament of the people. India, though the land of ages, and the cradle of the arts and of learning, has never been able to rise above mediocrity. Subject from the earliest time to an arbitrary system of government, she has naturally partaken of the evil as well as of the good of that system. A munificent Prince, or wise local Governor, might raise his immediate neighbourhood to opulence and prosperity; but for one such life there have been ages of misrule and oppression; and, owing to the peculiar system of hereditary village government, the people have never been able to institute a single measure for their relief: broken and disunited, they have necessarily been dependent on their arbitrary rulers. Still the system had some merit: if it did not promote the improvement of the people, it preserved them in that medial state the best adapted to the system; and the surplus wealth of its officials, either from charity or self-interest, was generally expended in works for the people's benefit. But a great change has now taken place: the rude and arbitrary Government of a rude people has been supplanted by one of liberal and philanthropic principles, which seeks to raise its subjects to its own intellectual and moral standard. Oppression has been removed, and the road to improvement lays open before them; but they have too long been subject to an helpless dependence on their rulers, and are still subject to too many adverse interests, to admit of their accepting of the boon which is held out to them; and they are thus deprived of the advantages of the old Government, while they are unable to receive the full benefits of the new. Government, in its anxiety to deprive its Native officials of the power to oppress, has been compelled also to deprive them of the power of doing the little good they were once capable of, while its own supervision is too limited to admit of its becoming acquainted with the domestic wants of the people; and, however anxious it may be for their improvement, as yet it has prepared no adequate domestic government as a substitute for the one which it has removed. I sincerely hope that in calling your attention to this subject I may be the remote, the humble means of originating a measure so vitally necessary for the improvement of the country.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) R. N. GOODDINE,

Sub-Assistant Superintendent Ahmednuggur Revenue Survey and Assessment.

Nassick, 10th October 1845.

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Statement showing the Amount of Remuneration received by the Patels of Parganna Koombarce, for the Year 1253 Feslee.

NAMES OF VILLAGES.	NUMBER OF SHARES.				GOVERNMENT ALLOWANCE.										KARAS.										PAYMENT.										GRAND TOTAL.
					Muzamdar.					Total.					Muzamdar.					Total.					Muzamdar.					Total.					
	Share.	Paid.	Rate.	Amount.	Total.	Share.	Paid.	Rate.	Amount.	Total.	Share.	Paid.	Rate.	Amount.	Total.	Share.	Paid.	Rate.	Amount.	Total.	Share.	Paid.	Rate.	Amount.	Total.	Share.	Paid.	Rate.	Amount.	Total.					
	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.		1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.		1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.		1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.		1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.		1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.						
Kucha Kumbharce	1	4	4	12	120 0 0					120 0 0						10 0 0					4	2 0 0										14 4 0			
Dharogga	1	4	1	2	116 0 0					112 0 0						32 0 0																3 0 0			
Kopergan	1	2	1		116 0 0					112 0 0																						17 0 0			
Somnath	0				202 14 0					214 14 0																						27 0 0			
Radhi	1				120 0 0					122 0 0																						21 4 0			
Pantach	0	6		12	116 0 0					112 0 0																						48 0 0			
Nigra Eamokh	1	1			116 0 0					114 0 0																						12 0 0			
Morja Karamji Bhabh	2	1			202 12 0					210 12 0																						11 6 0			
Kokurthar	1	1	2	3	116 0 0					120 0 0																						18 4 0			
Sole	2	2			116 0 0					120 0 0																						10 0 0			
Singur	1	2	1	2	171 0 0					174 0 0																						4 7 0			
Warra	2	2			171 0 0					172 0 0																						30 10 0			
Dusok Khord	2	2			112 12 0					112 12 0																						8 4 0			
Dusok Bhabh	4	2	4		114 0 0					114 0 0																						10 0 0			
Ghara	6				27 0 0					28 2 0																						8 4 0			
Hagpur	12				116 0 0					116 0 0																						5 1 0			
Honourpur	1	1	1		26 0 0					26 0 0																						5 0 0			
Somra	1	1	1		60 0 0					61 0 0																						2 2 0			
Malapara	1	1	1		42 14 0					48 14 0																						4 8 0			
Kolapur	1	2	1		114 0 0					114 0 0																						0 8 0			
Shahapur	4				34 12 0					38 12 0																						33 4 0			
Chau	10	1			114 0 0					112 0 0																						4 0 0			
Hagpur	1				116 0 0					120 0 0																						3 12 0			
Tawa Warra	12	24	12	10	116 0 0					120 0 0																						1 2 0			
Kharaj Khord	8	0			116 0 0					112 0 0																							8 0 0		
Kharaj	2	12			116 12 0					121 12 0																							101 12 0		
Morwa	1	1	1		60 0 0					61 0 0																							61 0 0		
Handi Warra	2	2			42 0 0					44 0 0																							48 12 0		
Wajpur	5	11			116 0 0					116 0 0																							3 0 0		
Balapur	13				116 0 0					116 0 0																							0 2 0		
Singur	2				60 11 0					60 11 0																							80 11 0		
Wajpur	1	1			27 0 0					28 0 0																							72 0 0		
Zam	1	3			267 2 0					268 12 0																							220 1 0		
TOTAL	118	103	42	21	2400 12 0					2400 12 0																							4207 0 0		

(Signed) R. N. GOODDINE,

Sub-Assistant Ahmednagar Revenue Survey and Assessment.

Statement showing the Amount of Remuneration received by the Jemadars of Purgunna Koombharee, for the Year 1253 Fuslee.

NAMES OF VILLAGES.	GOVERNMENT.							PURBHAREE.						GRAND TOTAL.
	Enam.	Purmas.	Bheekne.		Roosoom at 2 per cent. on the Jaghire.	Total.	Rakta.	Rhet.	Buckra.	Shoes.	Blanket.	Total.		
			Per cent.	Amount.										
Kusba Koombharee	60 0 0	6 3 9 2 6 6	25 7 0	11 4 0	102 14 9	3 0 0	0 15 3	..	0 15 3	..	4 14 6	107 13		
" Dharungaon	90 0 0	6 3 9 3 7 9	57 2 0	17 4 0	170 9 9	3 12 0	0 15 3	..	0 3 9	..	4 15 0	175 8 9		
" Kopergaon	..	6 3 9 1 8 6	12 12 0	8 15 0	27 14 9	2 12 0	..	..	..	..	2 12 0	30 10 9		
" Sowutsura	299 5 0	6 3 9 2 0 3	34 2 0	18 1 0	357 11 9	3 12 0	..	0 7 9	0 11 6	1 7 0	6 6 3	364 2 0		
" Rahate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
" Puntambee	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Mowjee Kurunjee Budrookh	240 0 0	6 3 9 1 1 0	7 4 0	7 6 0	260 13 9	3 0 0	0 15 3	0 7 9	..	..	4 7 0	265 4 9		
" Kokumthan	429 12 0	6 3 9 1 5 0	54 4 0	44 7 0	534 10 9	3 12 0	..	0 7 9	0 11 6	0 15 3	5 14 6	540 9 3		
" Sude	45 0 0	6 3 9 1 8 0	11 0 0	7 15 0	70 2 9	3 0 0	..	..	..	..	3 0 0	73 2 9		
" Singwee	150 0 0	6 3 9 1 1 6	18 14 0	18 10 0	193 15 9	2 12 0	..	..	0 15 3	..	3 11 3	197 7 0		
" Warree	60 0 0	6 3 9 1 6 0	24 6 0	19 0 0	109 9 9	2 12 0	0 15 3	0 7 9	0 11 6	..	4 14 6	114 9 3		
" Daooch Khoord	70 0 0	6 3 9 4 13 10	12 4 0	2 10 0	91 1 9	3 0 0	0 7 9	..	..	..	3 7 9	94 9 6		
" Daooch Budrookh	70 0 0	6 3 9 4 10 0	12 14 0	2 14 0	91 15 9	1 0 0	0 15 3	..	..	..	1 15 3	93 15 0		
" Gharee	..	6 3 9 4 8 0	15 6 0	3 9 0	25 2 9	3 0 0	..	0 7 9	..	..	3 7 9	28 10 6		
" Hingnee	..	6 3 9 3 5 0	1 10 0	0 8 0	8 5 9	..	0 8 0	..	..	..	0 8 0	8 13 9		
" Moorsutpoor	..	6 3 9 3 11 6	17 8 0	4 15 0	28 10 9	2 0 0	0 15 3	..	..	..	2 15 3	31 10 0		
" Sonarree	60 0 0	6 3 9 3 7 0	25 12 0	7 14 0	99 13 9	3 12 0	..	..	..	..	3 12 0	103 9 9		
" Mahegaon	..	6 3 9 2 14 9	27 3 0	9 14 0	43 4 9	3 0 0	0 15 3	..	0 9 6	..	4 8 9	47 13 6		
" Kolegaon	30 0 0	6 3 9 2 9 0	28 8 0	11 10 0	76 5 9	4 8 0	0 15 3	0 7 9	0 15 3	..	6 14 3	83 4 0		
" Shahazapoor	..	6 3 9 3 0 0	5 3 0	1 13 0	13 3 9	1 4 0	0 15 3	0 4 0	..	..	2 3 3	15 7 0		
" Chass	60 0 0	6 3 9 2 8 0	12 9 0	5 5 0	84 1 9	2 12 0	..	..	..	..	2 12 0	86 13 9		
" Munjoor	..	6 3 9 2 6 6	29 15 0	13 4 0	49 6 9	3 4 0	0 15 3	0 7 9	..	..	4 11 0	54 1 6		
" Tamus Warree	..	6 3 9 2 10 9	25 3 0	10 0 0	41 6 9	3 0 0	0 15 3	0 15 3	0 15 3	..	5 13 9	47 4 6		
" Khurunjee Khoord	..	6 3 9 2 10 0	23 15 0	9 9 0	39 11 9	2 12 0	0 15 3	0 15 3	0 15 3	..	5 9 9	45 5 6		
" Khedelee	..	6 3 9 2 7 0	33 9 0	14 10 0	54 6 9	3 12 0	0 15 3	..	..	..	4 11 3	59 2 0		
" Morvees	60 0 0	6 3 9 5 0 3	15 10 0	3 3 0	85 0 9	2 0 0	0 15 3	0 7 9	0 7 9	..	3 14 9	88 15 6		
" Hande Warree	..	6 3 9 3 9 6	4 9 0	1 5 0	12 1 9	1 14 9	..	0 7 9	..	..	2 6 6	14 8 3		
" Wudgaon	..	6 3 9 5 11 0	16 11 0	3 0 0	25 14 9	..	0 15 3	0 15 3	..	..	1 14 6	27 13 3		
" Bukhterpoor	..	6 3 9 4 6 0	10 9 0	2 8 0	19 4 9	..	0 15 3	0 15 3	..	..	1 14 6	21 3 3		
" Sangwee	..	6 3 9 6 0 0	45 2 0	7 9 0	58 14 9	2 12 0	0 15 3	..	0 15 3	..	4 10 6	63 9 3		
" Welapoor	..	6 3 9 6 0 0	34 9 0	5 14 0	46 10 9	3 0 0	..	..	..	..	3 0 0	49 10 9		
" Jeoor	90 0 0	6 3 9 2 10 3	20 5 0	8 1 0	124 9 9	2 12 0	0 15 3	0 7 9	..	..	4 3 0	128 12 9		
Total	1814 0 1	187 0 6	..	664 1 0	282 13 0	2947 15 6	677 14 9	17 14 3	8 14 6	9 3 0	2 6 3	116 4 9	3064 4 3	
	1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	

(Signed) R. N. GOODDINE,

Sub-Assistant Superintendent Ahmednuggur Revenue Survey and Assessment.

Statement showing the Expenditure of Chilher Expenses in the Villages of the Koombharee Purgunna, allowed by Government, at 6 per cent. on the Total Collections, for the Year 1253 Fuslee.

NAMES OF VILLAGES.	RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.									
	Total Collections.	Chilber at 6 per cent. on Collections.	Government.				Village.				GRAND TOTAL.	
			Simjeon- Bhat.	Kazee.	Nazab- gahes.	Total.	Dewanthan.	Dharmadasee.	Pothchereh.	Total.		
Kusba Koombharee	1149 6 0	68 15 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	30 0 0	1 0 0	34 15 0	65 15 0	68 15 0	
" Dharungaon	1773 8 6	106 6 0	1 0 0	2 0 0	1 0 0	4 0 0	10 13 0	14 8 0	77 1 0	102 6 0	106 6 0	
" Kopergaon	996 6 3	54 6 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	10 13 0	2 12 0	37 13 0	51 6 0	54 6 0	
" Sowutsura	1831 10 0	109 15 0	1 0 0	..	1 0 0	2 0 0	39 0 0	7 0 0	61 15 0	107 15 0	109 15 0	
" Rahate	3150 9 9	189 7 0	..	..	..	..	36 0 0	5 0 0	148 7 0	189 7 0	189 7 0	
" Puntamboe	8615 2 9	517 5 0	1 8 0	4 0 0	..	5 8 0	178 4 0	74 14 0	258 11 0	511 13 0	517 5 0	
Mowjee Kurunjee Budrookh	744 1 0	44 10 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	15 0 0	5 0 0	21 10 0	41 10 0	44 10 0	
" Kekumthan	4401 1 3	264 6 0	1 0 0	2 0 0	1 0 0	4 0 0	27 0 0	13 12 0	219 10 0	260 6 0	264 6 0	
" Sade	797 0 0	47 13 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	11 0 0	1 0 0	32 13 0	44 13 0	47 13 0	
" Singwee	1867 12 9	112 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	40 0 0	15 0 0	54 0 0	109 0 0	112 0 0	
" Warree	1940 0 0	116 7 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	39 0 0	19 0 0	55 7 0	113 7 0	116 7 0	
" Daooh Khoord	282 8 0	16 15 0	1 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	1 12 0	2 0 0	1 0 0	12 3 0	15 3 0	16 15 0	
" Daooh Budrookh	308 11 0	18 8 0	1 0 0	0 0 0	8 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	1 0 0	13 8 0	16 8 0	18 8 0	
" Gharee	377 9 3	22 10 0	0 8 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	2 8 0	2 8 0	1 8 0	16 2 0	20 2 0	22 10 0	
" Hingnee	62 1 9	3 11 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	4 0 0	0 12 0	0 8 0	..	2 7 0	2 15 0	3 11 0	
" Moorsutpoor	514 14 0	30 14 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	6 0 0	2 0 0	19 14 0	27 14 0	30 14 0	
" Songree	813 0 0	48 13 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	6 0 0	4 0 0	35 13 0	45 13 0	48 13 0	
" Mahagaon	1014 11 6	60 14 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	5 0 0	1 0 0	51 14 0	57 14 0	60 14 0	
" Kolegaon	1264 9 6	72 4 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	15 0 0	1 8 0	52 12 0	69 4 0	72 4 0	
" Shalahazapoor	195 0 0	11 11 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	4 0 0	0 12 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	9 3 0	10 15 0	11 11 0	
" Chass	552 8 0	33 2 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	14 6 0	4 1 0	11 11 0	30 2 0	33 2 0	
" Munjoor	1346 4 0	79 3 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	13 3 0	28 0 0	35 0 0	76 3 0	79 3 0	
" Tams Warree	1027 8 9	61 10 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	14 0 0	4 6 0	40 4 0	58 10 0	61 10 0	
" Khurunjee Khoord	989 9 0	59 6 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	12 8 0	2 8 0	41 6 0	56 6 0	59 6 0	
" Kheille	1474 5 6	69 5 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	5 0 0	4 0 0	77 5 0	86 5 0	69 5 0	
" Morwees	343 1 0	19 1 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	0 12 0	12 5 0	16 1 0	19 1 0	
" Hande Warree	145 5 3	8 11 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	1 8 0	4 11 0	7 3 0	8 11 0	
" Wudgaon	327 13 0	19 10 0	1 0 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	2 0 0	3 13 0	2 8 0	11 5 0	17 10 0	19 10 0	
" Bukhterpoor	270 8 0	13 3 0	1 0 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	10 11 0	14 3 0	16 3 0	
" Sangwee	786 12 0	49 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	12 0 0	6 0 0	28 0 0	46 0 0	49 0 0	
" Welapoor	637 8 6	36 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	7 0 0	5 8 0	20 8 0	33 0 0	36 0 0	
" Joor	833 12 9	50 2 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	17 0 0	10 0 0	20 2 0	47 2 0	50 2 0	
Total	40687 12	62439 3	0 29 0	0 30 14	0 25 14	0 85 12	0 581 12	0 242 5	0 1529 6	0 3933 7	0 2439 3	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	

REMARK.—In the Jemadar's Statement, No. G, column No. 7, there is an item, "Bhet," Rupees 17-14-3, which the village officers have not entered in the Chilher-expenditure; neither have they entered the Bhet which they pay to Government at the Jammabundee.

(Signed) R. ~~X~~ GOODDINE,

Sub-Assistant Superintendent Ahmednuggur Revenue Survey and Assessment.

Statement showing the Total Village Expenditure of Pargunna Koombhagur, for the Year 1253 Fasalce.

[illegible]

Statement showing the Average Remuneration received by the District and Village Officers for the four Years 1250 ad 1253 Fuslee.

NAMES OF VILLAGES.	JEMADARS.									PATILL.									COOLKURRE.								
	4 Years' Total.			4 Years' Average.			4 Years' Total.			4 Years' Average.			4 Years' Total.			4 Years' Average.			4 Years' Total.			4 Years' Average.			4 Years' Total.		
	Government.	Partihars.	Total.	Government.	Partihars.	Total.	Government.	Partihars.	Total.	Government.	Partihars.	Total.	Government.	Partihars.	Total.	Government.	Partihars.	Total.	Government.	Partihars.	Total.	Government.	Partihars.	Total.	Government.	Partihars.	Total.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Kusla Koombharee	487 15 6	27 2 0	515 1 6	121 15 10	6 12 6	128 12 4	480 0 0	156 1 0	636 0 0	120 0 0	39 0 3	159 0 3	68 0 0	477 12 0	545 12 0	17 0 0	119 7 0	136 7 0									
" Dharangaoon	772 0 6	24 12 0	796 12 6	193 0 1	6 3 0	199 3 1	461 8 0	106 10 0	568 2 0	115 6 0	20 10 6	142 6 6	94 8 0	715 12 3	810 4 3	23 10 0	178 15 2	202 9 3									
" Kopergaon	153 3 6	10 9 0	174 3 6	38 12 10	4 12 0	43 8 10	461 8 0	61 3 0	522 11 0	110 6 0	15 4 9	150 10 9	61 0 0	231 4 6	298 4 6	10 0 0	58 0 1	74 0 1									
" Sowatsura	1503 14 6	31 13 0	1535 11 6	375 13 7	7 15 3	383 14 10	855 10 0	137 10 0	993 4 0	218 14 6	34 6 0	248 5 0	69 0 0	251 12 9	320 12 9	17 4 0	62 15 2	80 3 2									
" Rahate	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1753 5 0	242 12 0	1996 1 0	438 5 3	60 11 0	499 0 3	104 0 0	740 8 6	994 8 6	41 0 0	185 2 1	226 2 1									
" Pantambee	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	76 0 0	104 0 0	270 0 0	19 0 0	48 8 0	67 8 0	20 0 0	1713 15 0	1733 15 0	3 0 0	428 7 0	433 7 9									
Majrai Ekrookh	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	580 8 0	50 0 0	630 8 0	147 0 0	12 8 0	150 14 6	8 0 0	388 13 0	396 13 0	2 0 0	97 3 3	99 3 3									
Mowjee Kurunjee Badrookh	1084 10 6	20 0 0	1104 10 6	271 2 7	6 8 0	277 10 7	919 0 0	100 3 0	1019 3 0	220 12 0	25 0 0	254 12 9	165 6 0	216 5 0	381 11 6	41 5 0	54 1 4	95 6 10									
" Kokumthau	2198 8 6	29 10 0	2228 2 6	549 10 1	7 6 6	557 0 7	3 0 0	77 14 0	80 14 0	0 12 0	19 7 6	20 3 6	.....	431 1 9	431 7 9	.....	167 12 2	167 12 5									
" Sude	283 9 6	18 11 0	302 4 6	70 14 4	4 10 9	75 9 15	461 8 0	28 10 0	490 2 0	115 6 0	7 2 0	122 8 6	29 0 0	130 9 0	150 9 0	7 4 0	32 10 3	30 14 3									
" Singwee	807 13 3	21 9 0	829 8 3	201 15 9	5 6 3	207 6 3	1178 0 0	79 5 0	1257 5 0	294 8 0	10 13 3	314 5 3	72 0 0	300 10 0	372 10 0	18 9 0	75 2 6	93 2 6									
" Warree	425 2 6	27 6 0	452 8 6	106 4 7	6 13 6	113 2 1	711 4 0	320 8 0	1037 12 0	177 13 0	51 10 2	329 7 2	76 0 0	121 12 0	167 12 0	19 0 0	30 7 0	49 7 0									
" Danooh Khoord	463 0 6	21 7 0	424 7 6	100 12 1	5 5 9	106 1 10	275 14 0	33 0 0	609 7 0	143 15 6	8 6 3	152 5 9	19 0 0	93 8 0	112 8 0	4 12 0	23 6 0	28 2 0									
" Danooh Badrookh	423 12 6	13 7 0	437 3 6	105 15 1	3 5 9	109 4 10	461 8 0	2 12 0	464 4 0	115 0 0	0 11 0	110 1 0	20 0 0	109 3 0	138 8 0	7 4 0	27 6 0	34 10 0									
" Gharee	122 10 0	21 6 0	144 1 3	30 10 8	5 5 7	36 0 3	232 12 0	30 13 0	263 9 0	58 3 0	7 11 3	65 14 3	28 0 0	99 11 0	127 11 0	7 0 0	24 14 0	31 14 9									
" Hingnee	69 14 3	3 5 9	61 4 6	15 3 8	0 13 5	16 1 1	4 0 0	14 10 6	18 10 6	1 0 0	3 10 7	4 10 7	11 8 0	54 10 0	66 2 0	2 14 0	13 10 6	16 8 6									
" Moorsapoor	144 8 6	22 3 0	166 13 0	36 2 1	5 9 3	41 11 4	118 6 0	126 14 0	215 4 0	29 0 0	31 11 0	61 5 0	28 0 0	219 8 0	247 8 0	7 0 0	54 14 0	61 14 0									
" Sonarree	430 8 6	18 4 0	448 12 0	107 10 1	4 9 0	112 3 1	244 0 0	43 12 0	287 12 0	61 0 0	10 10 5	71 15 0	37 0 0	244 4 6	281 4 6	0 4 0	61 1 1	70 3 1									
" Mahagaon	217 5 6	25 11 0	243 0 8	54 5 4	6 6 9	60 12 3	175 9 0	24 7 0	200 0 0	43 14 3	6 1 9	50 0 0	33 8 0	200 5 0	262 13 0	13 6 0	62 5 3	65 11 3									
" Kolegaon	320 0 6	39 13 0	359 13 6	89 0 1	7 11 3	87 11 4	461 8 0	80 1 0	550 9 0	115 6 0	22 4 3	187 10 3	52 8 0	266 13 0	319 5 0	13 2 0	66 11 3	79 13 3									
" Shahazapoor	71 6 6	25 3 0	96 10 0	17 13 7	0 4 10	24 2 6	119 0 0	14 0 0	133 0 0	29 12 0	3 8 0	33 4 0	18 8 0	46 4 0	61 12 0	4 10 0	11 9 0	16 3 0									
" Chass	413 6 0	18 8 0	431 11 0	103 5 7	4 10 0	107 15 7	601 8 0	8 15 3	470 7 3	115 6 0	2 3 6	117 9 9	52 0 0	324 11 3	376 11 3	13 0 0	51 2 9	64 2 9									
" Manjoor	249 12 3	29 4 0	276 9 3	62 7 1	6 9 0	69 0 3	607 0 0	295 3 0	902 3 0	151 12 0	73 12 9	225 8 9	72 0 0	425 5 0	497 5 0	18 0 0	196 5 3	124 6 3									
" Tamur Warree	260 6 9	31 3 0	291 9 9	65 1 8	7 12 0	72 14 5	408 0 0	11 9 0	419 0 0	102 0 0	3 12 0	104 12 0	77 0 0	284 11 0	361 11 0	19 4 0	71 2 9	90 6 9									
" Khurunjee Khoord	218 7 3	31 7 0	219 14 3	54 9 9	6 13 9	62 7 6	380 2 0	4 8 0	393 10 0	97 4 6	1 2 0	98 6 6	52 8 0	237 2 0	289 10 0	13 2 0	60 4 0	72 6 0									
" Khelle	220 6 6	24 9 0	244 15 6	55 1 7	6 1 3	61 3 10	407 1 0	.....	407 1 0	101 12 3	.....	161 12 3	62 8 0	237 2 0	290 19 0	15 10 0	26 4 6	74 14 6									
" Moorswee	370 9 6	21 3 6	391 13 0	92 10 1	5 4 10	97 15 3	244 0 0	.....	244 0 0	61 0 0	.....	61 0 0	27 8 0	124 4 0	151 12 0	6 14 6	31 1 6	37 15 0									
" Hamde Warree	53 6 6	9 10 0	62 0 6	13 1 7	2 6 6	15 8 1	178 6 0	13 10 6	192 0 6	44 9 6	3 6 7	48 0 1	12 12 0	31 3 0	62 15 0	3 3 0	12 12 9	15 15 0									
" Wulgaon	133 6 6	7 10 0	141 0 6	33 5 7	1 14 6	35 4 1	4 0 0	9 14 0	13 14 0	1 0 0	2 7 6	3 7 6	25 4 0	55 3 0	120 7 6	6 5 6	23 12 10	30 1 10									
" Bukhterpoor	105 2 6	7 10 0	112 12 6	28 4 7	1 14 6	28 3 1	4 0 0	17 9 6	21 9 6	1 0 0	4 6 4	5 6 4	30 0 0	96 5 0	126 5 0	7 8 0	24 1 3	31 9 3									
" Sangwee	367 3 6	37 10 0	394 13 6	91 12 7	6 14 6	98 11 1	346 12 0	.....	346 12 0	86 11 0	.....	86 11 0	33 0 0	216 3 3	269 3 3	13 4 0	54 0 9	67 4 9									
" Welapoor	258 11 9	20 4 0	278 15 9	64 10 1	5 1 0	69 11 1	232 12 0	50 14 0	283 10 0	58 3 0	12 11 6	70 14 6	67 0 0	102 15 0	190 15 0	9 4 0	40 11 6	46 15 0									
" Jeoor	430 13 9	25 12 0	455 0 9	134 15 5	6 7 0	141 0 5	823 4 0	100 6 0	923 10 0	208 5 0	25 1 8	233 6 6	70 11 0	282 15 6	333 10 6	17 10 9	65 11 10	83 6 7									
TOTAL	13103 0	6659 8 3	13762 8 3	3275 12 1	164 14	3440 10 2	14458 9	0 2452 11	61691 14	63014 0	3018 2 10	4227 13 1	1678 1	63584 12	311263 13	3419 12	32396 3	2813 15 3									

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(Signed) R. N. GOODDINE,

Sub-Assistant Superintendent Ahmednuggur Revenue Survey and Assessment.



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